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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT

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HEALTH & BEAUTY

Tips and treatments to help you look good and feel even better – See inside



DEPRESSING READING OF DEATH RATE

Cancer, diabetes, heart disease and mental health among the many health issues making our lives shorter than the rest of the country

MEDWAY has been revealed as a bad health hotspot – with life expectancy and smoking related deaths among a number of indicators significantly worse than the national average.

Shocking results from the annual public health report from NHS Medway also show the number of residents with diabetes and suffering early

EXCLUSIVE

BY DAN COLUMBINI

deaths from heart disease and cancer are also above the England average.

Medway has 247 smoker deaths each year, per 100,000 population, above the national average of 210.

Early deaths from heart disease and stroke stand at 91.9, up on the England figure of 79.1 and early

deaths from cancer comes in at 125.8, also up on the average of 115.5

There is also a concerning lack of physical activity and healthy eating among adults, a factor which has contributed to these stunning statistics.

Dr Alison Barnett, director of public health for Medway, said: "To help people achieve better health, the public health directorate in Medway runs a number of projects and programmes offering people support in quitting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



PAUL'S HEADING UP SEARCH FOR TALENT

Britain's Got Talent finalist Paul Burling is set to host Medway's very own search for a star.

The leading impressionist – who wowed Simon Cowell and his fellow judges with his send-ups of a range of top celebs – will run the rule over the towns' talent later this year.

Singers, dancers, comedians and musicians are invited to enter the contest, which will see the winner taking home a £500 prize and earning a spot in this year's Central Theatre panto, Jack and The Beanstalk.

Paul is one of the stars of the panto, alongside EastEnders and west end star Emma Barton, and CBeebies' Mister Maker, Phil Gallagher.

Auditions will be held at The Central Theatre on Sunday, September 19, with Paul hosting the live final on Sunday, October 17.

For more information visit www.evolution-productions.co.uk.

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Head-teacher voted ward representative

■ BY DAN COLOMBINI

CONSERVATIVE candidate David Craggs has been chosen as the new representative for River Ward.

In a closely fought by-election held on Thursday, the headteacher from Chatham emerged victorious with 617 votes, beating his closest rival by a margin of 73.

Following the resignation of Councillor Bill Esterson, residents were asked to choose a new representative for the area and the policies of Cllr Craggs claimed the majority of their votes.

In second place was Labour candidate John James, who received 544 votes. He was followed by Liberal Democrat Garry Harrison with 104 votes.

The Green Party, represented by Steven Keevil, gained 45 votes while the other two candidates, Brian Ravenscroft of the British National Party and Ron Sands of the English Democrats received 39 and 33 votes respectively.

The turnout was 25.3 per cent. During his campaign, Cllr Craggs had vowed to ensure that the police in Medway are provided with the resources they need to keep the area safe, as well as ensuring top-quality education and improving the local economy.

These are areas that are close to his heart from his time spent as a special constable patrolling the streets of Medway and in his post at Gad's Hill School, Higham.

Speaking after the result he said: "I'm delighted to have secured victory in the River Ward by-election and I'm looking forward to working hard on behalf of the people."



NEWLY ELECTED: Councillor David Craggs

Following a gruelling election campaign, taking in the opinions of local voters, Cllr Craggs has also declared that issues directly affecting peoples lives will be of primary importance.

He added: "On the doorstep, many people expressed concerns about issues that worry them. These are all too often about anti-social behaviour, crime and quality of life regarding the environment in which people live and work. People get fed up with graffiti, fly-tipping, excessive noise and anti-social behaviour as it has a direct effect on their lives. I will be working hard to try to improve these matters over the next few months.

"Also, with the funding for Chatham's regeneration secured and now guaranteed by the new Government, we also need to make Medway an attractive place for businesses to relocate. We still lag in some areas compared to the rest of the South-East. I'm ready to make Medway 'open for business'."

The Conservative representative will now join current ward councillor Craig Mckinlay.

Man sentenced for damaging fence

A GILLINGHAM man has been ordered to pay £85 costs after damaging a council-owned metal fence.

Mark Dermot McDonnell, 40, of Locarno Avenue, admitted damaging the fence in Deanwood Drive, Rainham.

He was given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £85 costs at Medway Magistrates Court on Friday, August 6.

Mobile phone driver gets call to pay up

A YOUNG driver has been fined £175 for using a mobile phone while behind the wheel.

Lloyd Philip Skeats, 20, of High Street, Rochester, was caught driving a white Vauxhall Corsa in Corporation Street, Rochester, while using his phone.

He was sentenced at Medway Magistrates Court on Friday, August 6.

Magistrates fined Skeats £175, ordered him to pay £100 costs and endorsed his licence with three points.

Drunk and disorderly woman pays price

BOOZY Elizabeth Teeney has been ordered to pay £115 after being found drunk and disorderly in Chatham last month.

The 23-year-old, of no fixed abode, was arrested in Rochester Street, Chatham, on Sunday, July 4.

She was fined £50 and ordered to pay £65 costs.

Driver sentenced for having no insurance

YOUNG motorist Sanjay Viridi has been ordered to pay £290 after being caught driving with no insurance.

The 22-year-old, of Rede Court Road, Rochester, was stopped in a Ford Fiesta near her home in March.

Officers found she was not insured to drive the vehicle.

Magistrates endorsed her licence with six points, fined her £240 and ordered her pay costs of £50.

Much-loved doctor dies at 82

THE medical community of Medway is in mourning following the death of a distinguished doctor who practised in the area for more than 50 years.

Dr Tony Wood, 82, passed away on Tuesday, August 3, at Medway Maritime Hospital after failing to recover from operations to remove malignant tumours.

The doctor came to Medway with his first wife Liz in 1955 after qualifying at the London Hospital Medical College.

During the next five decades he was involved in a number of surgeries in Strood and Rochester and was instrumental in gaining funding for what is now the Strood Medical Centre.

Throughout the 1970s Dr Wood also held a number of high-profile positions, including being elected fel-

low of the Royal College of General Practitioners, chairman of the South-East Thames Faculty Board and chairman of the Medway District Reorganisation Committee.

After resigning as a senior partner of the Strood and Rochester Practices, Dr Wood went on to join what was then known as the Department of Health and Social Security, where he became the Senior Medical Officer.

He also continued to work in a part-time capacity as a referee for the Regional Medical Service as well as the Examining Medical Practitioner to the Department of Social Services for Attendance and Mobility Allowances.

As well as his services to the medical world, Dr Wood was a keen golfer and a member of the Rochester and

Cobham Club for over 45 years. He was also a beloved family man and father. After Liz's death in 1992, he married his second wife Phyllis in 1996.

His family said that they could not express their sadness in words at this time but many friends have rallied round to pay their respects.

One well-wisher said: "He enriched our lives with his great sense of humour and fun."

Another added: "Tony was a great guy, a good friend and will be greatly missed by all who were privileged to have known him."



MISSED: Dr Wood

Spy camera was 'carrying out enforcement action'

Council defends its CCTV driver

EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

MEDWAY Council's CCTV spy car has once again been captured parked on double yellow lines.

The all-seeing camera car, one of two operated by the council, was parked in a cul-de-sac outside Blockbuster's Chatham town centre store, off Best Street, on Saturday, July 31.

Outraged systems engineer Ryan Ullman took this photo and said it was yet another case of 'one rule for us and one rule for the council'.

He said: "This picture was taken at 10.20am. The CCTV Smart car had been parked there since 10am and was lying in wait for people parking outside the Post Office in Chatham.

"As you can probably see the camera had been raised on top of the car to see over the wall so people could not see the car but they could see them.

"It is definitely a case of one rule for us and another for them and is not promoting the right message to people."

Last week this paper exclusively revealed that the council's two controversial camera cars issued more than 16,000 tickets in the last



LYING IN WAIT: The CCTV camera has been raised to look over the wall onto the road by Chatham Post Office

financial year, raking in just over £455,000 in fines from motorists.

The number of tickets and overall income are both roughly four times higher than those recorded in Manchester, a city with more than 200,000 more residents.

In the past few weeks Yourmedway readers have been sending us photographs of the Spy Cars parked on double yellow lines across the towns. One driver was sacked by the council after parking his camera vehicle illegally at the bottom of Castle Hill, Rochester.

Medway Council spokesman John Staples said on this latest occasion their driver was legally parked on double yellow lines.

He said: "We have looked at our records and can confirm that the CCTV car was carrying out enforcement action on an illegally parked car when this picture was taken.

"Medway's residents want parking enforcement as this is the only way to prevent the blight caused by thoughtless drivers parking illegally. In fact, we currently have more than 300 applications for yellow lines from members of the public, which we are looking into.

"We find that the vast majority of Medway's residents act responsibly and park their cars legally. We will, of course, continue to pursue the small minority that don't. If drivers do not want to receive fines they need to park legally."

Licence-dodgers are caught out

MORE than 1,000 TV licence fee dodgers were caught in Medway in the first six months of this year.

The law-breaking residents were among 209,000 fellow non-fee payers across the UK identified by TV Licensing.

A spokesman for the licensing body said: "The vast majority of people pay their licence fee, and to be fair to those who pay, we have to be firm with those who attempt to get away without paying.

"We take TV Licence evasion very seriously and, while we give people every opportunity to pay, we will not hesitate to prosecute if they continue to break the law.

"We do understand that some people may find it difficult to pay their licence fee in one go, which is why we offer numerous ways to spread the cost, including monthly Direct Debit, which can be set up very quickly online, and a weekly cash payment plan."

A colour TV Licence currently costs £145.50 and is required by anyone watching or recording TV programmes as they are shown on TV, whether they are using a TV set, computer, or any other equipment.

Anyone watching TV illegally risks prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000.

Sentenced for drugs possession

A CHATHAM woman has been sentenced to a two-year conditional discharge after being caught in possession of Class A drugs.

Amy Lauren Steel, of Palmerston Road, was stopped in Chatham with 0.2 grammes of cocaine and 0.2 grammes of heroin.

The 26-year-old was sentenced at Medway Magistrates Court on Friday, August 6.

Awareness has led to a rise in prescriptions

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

smoking getting active, eating healthily and making healthy choices."

This, in addition to pressures brought on by the recession, may have also contributed to the revelation that there has been an increase in the amount of prescriptions for anti-depressants this year.

Figures from the national Psychiatric Morbidity Survey show that the number of people suffering from anxiety or depression in the area has now increased to 29,601.

The number of prescriptions handed out in Medway for 2010 so far, has already reached 75,546 for the first five months, an increase of 10,156 from the same period last year. The total number of prescriptions for the illness written in the whole of 2009 totalled 167,000.

A spokesperson for NHS Medway said: "Prescriptions for anti-depressants are increasing nationally. We think that is largely due to increased awareness and a willingness to seek help."

Despite these statistics a new report has shown that the number of smokers in Medway is on the decline. The Public Health Observatory for the Health Profile 2010 have confirmed that rates dropped to just under 25 per cent compared to 31 per cent from the previous year.

Ex-boyfriend locked up for callous knife attack

A THUG has been jailed for eight years after slashing his then-girlfriend across the face with a knife.

Andrew Barfoot attacked his terrified teenage victim near his home in Maida Road, Chatham, at 3.30am on Friday, January 29.

Following an argument, the 24-year-old held the young woman against a car, took out a knife and cut her across the face.

The 17-year-old girl has been left with a permanent three-inch scar.

Barfoot pleaded guilty to wounding with intent and possession of an offensive weapon. He was jailed at Maidstone Crown Court on Thursday, August 12.

Following sentence, Detective Sergeant Chris Dovey said: "Barfoot has been given a significant sentence, which reflects the severity of his actions. This was a callous and needless assault, which has left his 17-year-old victim scarred for life.

"Kent police takes all reports of domestic abuse extremely seriously, and we work alongside victims to provide them with specialist support.

"Often victims can become fearful of reprisals or feel they are to blame

for what has happened. However, our team are aware of victims' circumstances and are able to help them throughout the legal process.

"We are pleased a long sentence was given to Barfoot as it sends a

clear message to people who carry knives that they will not be tolerated and those who use them will be jailed for a considerable amount of time. The young victim is now attempting to re-build her life following the assault and is slowly beginning to regain her confidence.

"As she comes to terms with what has happened our domestic abuse team will continue to work with her and provide the support she needs. It's important to stress that our work does not finish once a court case is concluded, but we continue to help victims for as long as they need it."

Wherever you live in Kent, there is a domestic abuse officer in your area.

Anyone wishing to report a crime or speak to an officer can contact Kent Police on 01622 690690.

If it is an emergency and life is in danger or a crime in progress then call 999 immediately.



IN PRISON: Andrew Barfoot scarred his then-girlfriend with his knife-attack

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TRAGIC: The home pensioner Alan Thomas shared with his late wife Winifred in Deanwood Drive, Rainham

OAP on trial for wife's murder is found dead

A RELIGIOUS pensioner from Rainham has been found dead in his home just days before he was due to be tried for the murder of his wife.

Alan Thomas, 79, of Deanwood Drive, was pronounced dead at the scene by police at 9pm on Monday, August 9.

His death, caused by asphyxiation, is not being treated as suspicious.

It is believed he may have committed suicide in response to the pressure from his impending trial.

Mr Thomas was due to appear at Maidstone Crown Court charged with the murder of his wife, Winifred, on Wednesday, August 25.

The 77-year-old was found drowned in the bath at the couple's home back in May.

She suffered from arthritis and it is thought that her husband of more than 50 years may have committed a 'mercy killing' to ease her pain.

Speaking at the time of her death, a close family friend said: "Winifred had been in Medway Hospital recently and Alan and I visited her.

"She was in because of her arthritis which she suffered from greatly. She seemed in a lot of pain and seemed to be struggling."

The couple were devout Christians and had enjoyed a long and happy marriage together, leading to suggestions that Mr

■ BY DAN COLOMBINI

Thomas was attempting to save his wife from her pain.

However, despite new guidance being issued on cases such as this, UK law still states that in situations where someone directly ends another's life, it will be left to a jury to decide their fate.

Another friend of the couple added: "Alan was so worried about the case. He had the weight of the world on his shoulders.

"Everybody that knew him knows he did not murder his wife in malice, but he could not deal with the shame of going to court. It is tragically sad."

There has yet to be any evidence revealed that Mrs Thomas had left any instructions for her husband to take this course of action.

They were a much-loved and respected couple in the area who rarely missed a Sunday at Church and were always by each other's side.

A neighbour concluded: "It's a terrible shame. They were always such a loving couple. Maybe now they are both in a happier, less painful place."

Mr Thomas's death brings an end to another case relating to Euthanasia in the UK following the acquittal of Kay Gilderdale, who helped her disabled daughter to die and Frances Inglis, who was sentenced to a minimum of nine years for administering a lethal dose of heroin to her disabled son.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Neighbour foils burglar

A BUNGLING burglar has been jailed for 60 days after being caught trying to break into a Gillingham house.

Clueless criminal Jay Hedges, of Chelmar Road, Chatham, was arrested after targeting a property in St John's Road, Gillingham, at 11am on Thursday, August 5.

The 26-year-old – who was wearing black socks on his hands – had climbed onto a flat first-floor roof and was attempting to prise open an upstairs bedroom window.

A neighbour spotted him as he was halfway through the window and raised the alarm.

Hedges jumped from the roof to escape but was soon cornered by the resident who held him until police arrived.

He was sentenced at Medway Magistrates Court after pleading guilty to burglary.

Investigating officer DC Chris Weatherstone said: "Thanks to the vigilance of local residents, Hedges was caught red-handed."

Driver twice over limit

A DRINK-driver has been disqualified for 16 months after being caught behind the wheel while nearly twice over the limit.

Nigel Farmer, 41, of Melville Court, Chatham, was stopped by police in Maidstone Road, Rochester, on Monday, June 28.

He had 64 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is 35.]

Farmer pleaded guilty to drink-driving at Medway Magistrates Court on Wednesday, August 4. He was disqualified from driving for 16 months, fined £140 and ordered to pay £100 costs.

Jazz trio to play RAC club

THREE of the most respected players on the British jazz scene will be performing at the RAC Association Club in Chatham on Friday.

The Simon Spillet Trio will show off their skills to jazz fans in Dock Road at 8.30pm.

Spillet, an award-winning tenor saxophonist, is one of the most popular young musicians in an emerging jazz scene.

Making up the trio will be Alec Dankworth on bass and Clark Tracey on drums.

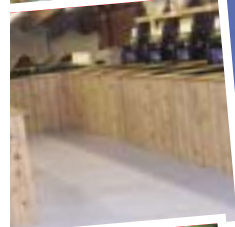
The group will play a mix of standard jazz classics as well as their own compositions.

Admission is £10. Call 07544 312743 for tickets.

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Council take hard line on litterbugs

CLEARING up after litterbugs costs the council £2.8 million each year, it has been revealed.

Yobs drop an estimated 2,200 tons of waste onto Medway's streets each year, leaving council contractors to clean it up.

Council enforcement bosses are taking a hard line and will issue an £80 on-the-spot fine to anyone caught littering.

Community safety and enforcement boss Mike O'Brien said: "If you drop litter and we catch you doing it you will be fined.



TIDY: Mike O'Brien, Ian Garcia and Chris Harrison

There will be no excuse. Either use your nearest bin or take it home.

"If we can reduce the amount of litter being dropped it will save the council and the taxpayer money and make Medway an even better place to be."

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Scientist's delight at 40 years in NHS

DEDICATED health worker Gail Cooper is celebrating 40 years service in Medway.

The senior biomedical scientist's first full day's work came on August 10, 1970 – when Elvis Presley's hit single The Wonder of You was sitting at the top of the UK charts and new Prime Minister Edward Heath was settling in at No 10.

Gail, 58, from Rainham, said she vividly remembers starting out as a junior pathology technician at All Saints Hospital.

She said: "I started working at All Saints straight from school as a junior B lab technician – you used to get junior A technicians who had O levels and junior B technicians who had A levels.

"My salary back then was £644 a year. I qualified in 1972, and then became a senior lab technician in 1981, and have specialised in blood transfusion since then.

"Among other things, my role involves me screening people before they come in for surgery and providing blood and blood products to patients who need it as a result of blood loss. I get great job satisfaction doing my part behind the scenes to help save the patient's life."

Gail said she had seen many changes during her time working in the NHS.

"The work is more automated now. But of course the other big change was when All Saints and St Bartholomew's merged with Medway Maritime Hospital in 1999, to form one trust. That was the biggest change – witnessing the expansion.

"One thing that hasn't changed though is the lovely people I get to work with, the fantastic sense of team spirit and the satisfaction you get when you know you are making a difference to a patient's life. That's the most satisfying part of my job."

Runner gets 10 out of 10 for his marathon effort

MEET marathon man Alan Keen, who set himself the target of completing ten 26-mile courses in as many months.

The 32-year-old, from Walderslade, began his '10 in 10' challenge in January, and has so far completed marathons in cities across the UK including Gloucester, Cambridge and Blackpool.

The Maidstone Harriers runner, who is raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support, said: "I try to do something for charity every couple of years and last time I ran the London Marathon.

Dublin

"That raised more money than any other, so I looked for a way to raise the bar, and my '10 in 10' challenge was created.

"I wanted something that was going to be a real challenge and I wanted to push myself."

Alan began training for the multiple marathon challenge in June last year, with lunchtime runs through London, where he works in a PR agency.

His efforts look to be paying off, with seven marathons down and only three to go. Race num-

■ BY JOE BILL

ber eight takes place in Ramsgate this month.

With 90 miles of training being clocked up every month Alan is still looking for more people to get their cash out and support his charity crusade.

He said: "So far we have raised around £700 and I am still looking for more people to start getting on board. The way I see it, it would be great to raise £5,000, but if only get £1,000 it is still £1,000 that Macmillan might not have had.

"I talk to the Macmillan offices wherever I go to run and I have the upmost respect for what they do on a daily basis."

Alan will travel to Nottingham next month before ending his mass of marathons in Dublin in October.

He added: "I have no injuries at the moment so we are still going well.

"A few friends are going to come over on that last Dublin trip and hopefully we can make a bit of a weekend of it to celebrate the end at last."

If you want donate and for regular updates on Alan's progress visit his blog at <http://mrkeeno.wordpress.com>.



RUNNING MAN: Alan Keen is taking part in 10 marathons this year to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support



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QUESTION & ANSWER

JOHN KEMPTON



Q How long have you been involved with the Medway Queen, and how did this happen?

A I have been involved since 1987, I went back to my old school St John Fisher to sign up for an evening class and met Marshall Vine one of the teachers who founded the Medway Queen Preservation Society. He handed me a membership leaflet and here we are.

Q What does your role as chairman involve?

A My role as chairman is basically to help the committee and the wider membership to work together to restore the ship.

Q Tell us a little bit of history about the ship?

A The Medway Queen was launched on St George's Day in 1924 at Ailsa yard, Scotland. She was the first new ship for the New Medway Steam Packet Co and ran on the River Medway between Stood, Chatham, Southend, Herne Bay, Sheerness and Clacton until 1939.

She was then taken into Royal Naval service and converted into a minesweeper, her greatest moment came during the evacuation of Dunkirk in May and June 1940 when she rescued 7,000 men over seven trips, and became known as the Heroine of Dunkirk.

After that she was restored to a passenger vessel and continued to work until 1963, when she was taken out of service.

She then went to the Isle of Wight where she was used as a club house until 1975, when she was abandoned on the River Medina.

Following this, a group of businessmen returned her to Chatham but unfortunately went bust. It was then that the Medway Queen Preservation Society was formed. The society bought her and took her to Damhead Creek, where she remained for many years.

Finally in 2006, following the award of money from the Heritage Lottery fund, and due to the condition of the hull, it was agreed to dismantle the ship and recover the engines and all the usable parts. She is now being rebuilt in Bristol at Albion Dockyard.

Q Has the restoration of the Medway Queen aroused a lot of interest from the community?

A Yes, a great deal of interest as she was a local ship on which many people travelled.

Q Have you always been interested in projects such as this and shipping in general?

A I was a sea cadet in the Medway Towns unit, I worked as a shipping clerk for a number of years, and my grandfather was a naval officer before and during World War Two. I have always had an interest in ships and the sea. In addition to the Medway Queen, I am a fan of torpedo and motor gun boats from World War Two. I am also involved in the Light Vessel 21 at Gillingham, which was involved in the Fuse Festival, from which a

firework display was launched, and will be an arts and media centre for the community.

Q Have you any other hobbies?

A As I say, naval ships and boats are my main interest, but I have also taken an interest in the former Chatham Traction company who ran bus services in the towns, and whose last vehicle is being restored locally.

Q What else do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

A I enjoy reading and watching television. I also plan to study French and possibly Flemish as we have been awarded money from the EU in partnership with a French group to build a 15th century warship. We also have plans with a Belgian group to build an Antarctic survey vessel from 1897.

Q What is the best part of being involved in the project?

A Without a doubt the best part is the people – from the Dunkirk veterans to former crew members to those who travelled on her.

Q Who would you describe as your hero or inspiration?

A My main inspiration is my grandfather who served in the Royal Navy from the age of 12 as a junior midshipman.

Q & A

Reporter **Dan Colombini** speaks to the chairman of the Medway Queen Preservation Society about the long journey to restore this historic ship, and why she is of such importance to the community

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all makes used

Challenging times ahead as reforms target workless

MORE than 6,000 Medway residents claimed Jobseeker's Allowance last month, more than any part of the county.

The latest Department for Work and Pensions figures show there were a total of 6,434 claimants in the Medway towns.

This compares with 3,915 in Thanet, 2,181 in Maidstone and 1,734 in Ashford. Unemployment fell nationwide, but there are still nearly five million residents claiming out-of-work benefits.

Employment minister Chris Grayling said: "The fact that there are five million people on out-of-work benefits underlines the scale of Britain's welfare challenge and shows we are right to radically overhaul the system."

"Our reforms will mean people are always financially better off in work and no longer trapped on benefits."

"From early next year we will start full scale re-testing of incapacity benefit claimants and our work programme will come into force to ensure long-term unemployed people and others who need it have tailored support to move them into sustained work."

Cannabis charge

A GILLINGHAM man has been charged with cultivation of cannabis after a search of his home.

Darren Jackson, of Copenhagen Road, was arrested on August 2. The 36-year-old will appear at Medway Magistrates' Court on August 31.

Road sensors and cameras aim to ease M20 snarl-ups

■ BY MARIJKE COX

VARIABLE speed limits will be enforced by cameras on a six-mile stretch of the M20 following a public consultation.

The controlled motorway system will be installed between Junctions 4 (West Malling) and 7 (Maidstone) and will allow the Highways Agency to manage traffic flows by slowing vehicles down or closing lanes after an accident.

Underground sensors will be used to detect the volume of traffic, the speed it is travelling and how it is flowing.

But the multi-million-pound system, due to be introduced this month, has come under fire from the Association of British Drivers.

When the plans were introduced earlier this year, Kent branch secretary Brian McDowell said: "We strongly object to the idea of sensors under the road deciding how fast vehicles should be able to travel, which is akin to boys playing with train sets."

"To think that on a road system you can have automatic controls similar to what you have on railways is absolutely fallacious."

He added that the differing speed limits and cameras will make motorists more nervous about being caught when they should be concentrating on the road in front of them.

But officials from the Highways Agency say the changes will tackle congestion and make



GO WITH THE FLOW: The variable speed limit system will be used to tackle congestion on part of the M20

journeys safer and more reliable. Regional performance manager Barry Westwood said it will bring great benefits to drivers on the busy section of the M20.

"The system is already being used successfully on the M25 between Junctions 10 and 16, and on the M42 between Junctions 3A to 7," he said. "On the M25, where the system has been in place since 1995, it has helped make the motorway safer by reducing the frequency of collisions by ten per cent and by encouraging drivers to keep within the limits to provide smoother, more reliable journeys. A reduction in emissions of between two and eight per cent has also been recorded on the M25."

Advisory variable speed limits have been in

operation on the M20 since July, 2007, with suggested speeds flashed to motorists when the road is busy via matrix boards linked to underground road sensors, but there is currently no legal requirement to obey them.

But after a 12-week public consultation earlier this year by the Highways Agency, it was found that the majority of people were in favour of the new scheme.

It came after reports that motorists caught speeding in Kent and Medway last year paid a total of more than £2 million in fines. However, there has been a 63 per cent reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured since speed cameras were introduced on the county's roads.

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Sucha Singh Gill,
Medway Regeneration Ambassador

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Wildlife photographer's got his subjects 'clicked'

■ BY MARIJKE COX

STUNNING pictures showing touching moments between wild animals and their offspring have been brought together for a new children's book.

The heart-melting photos were captured by renowned photographer Steve Bloom, from Wye, near Ashford.

The 57-year-old, originally from South Africa, travelled to each of the world's continents to capture images of animals in their natural habitat.

His book, *My Favourite Animal Families*, with text from children's author David Henry Wilson, showcases about 70 of the best and most intimate pictures.

"It's a culmination of about 14 years' work," said Mr Bloom.

"The book is aimed at children, but I think it will appeal to all ages. I want it to take people into another world. I hope children reading my book will come to identify with the animals and realise they have their own separate ways of living, but are still connected to us.

"For example, the young animals have needs, just like babies and children do. Some of the pictures really show the maternal care."

Fourteen wild species feature in the book, including elephants, orangutans and pandas.

Specialises

Each animal family is presented over four pages, showing different aspects of their daily life such as feeding, playing and hunting.

A baby elephant sheltering from the rain under its mother and a young chimpanzee clinging to its mother's back are just two of a selection of intimate pictures showing the relationships between the wild animals and their young.

Mr Bloom said: "Taking these kinds of pictures can be a long process. I worked closely with guides and spoke to local people about how to get close to the animals.

"Take a grizzly bear, for example. You don't want to creep up on it quietly because bears don't like that – you have to make yourself heard – whereas when photographing something like a zebra you mustn't make a lot of noise. The last thing I want to do is cause stress to the animals.

"There is a lot of patience involved in this kind of work. I've waited for weeks before, waiting to get the picture. But it's definitely worth it. I waited for polar bears in temperatures 50 below freezing and decided to stay on longer. After 15 days, a mother came out with her cubs."

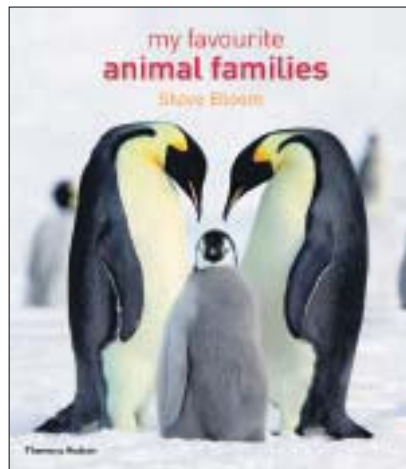
Mr Bloom, who specialises mainly in wildlife photography, has covered other subjects ranging from isolated tribes in Africa to urban people in Nairobi.

His other publications include *Living Africa*, *Spirit of the Wild*; and *Elephants: A Book for Children*.

He said: "I try to shoot from the heart. I go



MOTHER'S PRIDE: Steve's book is the culmination of about 14 years' work and thousands of miles travelling the globe



for eye contact. A lot of it is a subconscious thing and this translates into the work. You can have two photographers taking the same picture and they look different.

"No one really knows why, but the way you feel translates into a picture."

Mr Bloom added: "I've received emails and messages from people who have seen my pic-



tures and who say they have inspired them to work in conservation or to take up wildlife photography. It's a real pleasure to get such feedback."

• *My Favourite Animal Families*, published by Thames and Hudson, is available from bookshops, priced £9.99. Signed copies are available from the website www.stevebloomshop.com.



REACTING: Dungeness meets Government criteria

Dungeness back in running as site for nuclear power plant

A NEW nuclear power station at Dungeness could yet be built after the Government gave its strongest signal yet about its preferred list of sites, *writes James Alexandre*.

Energy Secretary Chris Huhne said the first of a new generation of reactors should be up and running by 2018, and those areas where there are already stations and popular local support are being considered for development.

Mr Huhne told the BBC: "There are a number of sites that have been identified around the country and those are generally on sites where we have previously had, for example, nuclear power stations and where local people are very keen that there should be new nuclear build.

"We have eight years before the first one will come onto the grid.

"We have to get through all the prior arrangements – national planning statements, making sure investors have their applications formally in and approved – and then building can commence."

He said private investors were ready to press ahead due to rising gas and oil prices and MPs would be prepared to vote in favour of new stations if there was no public subsidy involved.

In November, last year, former energy secretary Ed Miliband announced in the Commons that Dungeness would be one of only 11 sites not to be shortlisted for new nuclear stations.

This was based on advice from conservation body Natural England, which warned of the adverse effect on the area's unique ecosystem.

Consultation

Shepway MP Damian Collins welcomed the latest announcement and said Dungeness met the criteria laid down by Mr Huhne.

"It would certainly seem to fit the bill in that there are already nuclear power stations on site, there is considerable local support for a new power station and it is a site the energy companies believe can be developed by 2018," he said.

"Given the need for new and reliable sources of low-carbon energy in the next decade, I would hope the Government, in reviewing the consultation on nuclear sites, would include Dungeness.

"A new station would be a tremendous boost to the local economy."

County councillors and business leaders met in Folkestone on the eve of the general election to hear about the benefits a third reactor could bring.

Station director Graham Finn told them the B reactor pumps £30 million into the local economy and said its 570-strong workforce, plus 200 others who are indirectly employed, could lose their jobs if a new reactor was not commissioned.

Dungeness B is due to run until 2018, with the majority of the ageing nuclear infrastructure due to go offline by 2023.

Government recognises animal park's conservation effort

KENT has one of the best wildlife parks in the country, according to a new Government report.

The study commissioned by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) praised the work done by the staff and management at Wildwood, near Herne Bay, which has been held up as a shining example.

It took into account Wildwood's contribution to conservation and education and also used the animal park as a case study for its outstanding contribution to native wildlife conservation.

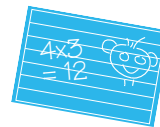
Wildwood Trust chief executive Peter Smith said: "It is wonderful for Wildwood to be recognised in such a report. Wildwood's volun-

teers, members and staff are making a huge contribution to help our most endangered creatures.

"The report highlights in particular the excellent efforts of our conservation team, led by senior conservation officer Hazel Ryan, in rescuing and reintroducing water voles – Britain's most endangered animal. Since we became a charity

eight years ago we have put in a huge amount of effort, making Wildwood the most successful wildlife education centre in Kent.

"We employ an outstanding team and have developed award-winning wildlife education programmes that stimulate fun and learning for children across the county."



BREAK TIME

Geoff is enjoying the view from academia



WITH HONOURS: Geoff Wiles with wife Barbara, sons Philip and Timothy and mother Joan

FORMER professional racing cyclist Geoff Wiles is urging youngsters to take up further education after he graduated with a first class honours degree.

The 66-year-old, who completed a BSc (Hons) in Sports Science at the University of Greenwich at Medway, said he was glad he had enrolled.

"Going to university has been such a rewarding experience I would recommend it to anyone," he said.

"My son Timothy is waiting for his A-level results and then it will be his turn." Mr Wiles said he had not ruled out taking his education further.

He said: "Having left school at 15, it was a huge mountain for me to climb to study academically. Now that I've reached the summit, I'm enjoying the view."

"My wife Barbara has a list of jobs I need to catch up on around the house, but I've been offered the chance to study part-time for an MSc in Sports Science. I have to say I'm tempted – I'm missing my university work very much."



TAKE A BOW: Young violinists ready to hit all the right notes



ENSEMBLE: Medway music centre players are calling the youthful tune

Let's hear it for musical youth

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE sound of music is alive in Medway, with more than 100 youngsters picking up a range of instruments for the first time.

The pupils were given basic tutorials on guitars, keyboards, steel drums, French horns, cellos and a whole range of instruments during a one-day music, singing and dancing workshop at Hilltop Primary School, Frindsbury. It was organised by Medway Council and Medway Schools Music Association (MSMA) in a bid to encourage children to make their own music.

Pupils from Wainscott primary, All Faith's, Gordon junior and infant, St Nicholas infant and Temple Mill schools also took part.

Hilltop head teacher John Allen said: "As a result of Medway's music initiatives, pupils in our Strood cluster have had the opportunity of taking part in a wide range of exciting musical experiences. Some of the more advanced players from our schools have had the opportunity

of playing together as an orchestra. It has been a fantastic experience for them."

Hilltop is one of three new Medway music centres, which encourage and promote children to learn instruments.

More centres will be opened during the autumn, including two which will run on Saturday mornings to give more young musicians the chance to develop their skills.

MSMA director and music adviser Derek Bleasdale said: "I'm delighted with the impact of Medway's Wider Opportunities Scheme."

"We are now seeing all young musicians at Key Stage 2 level having opportunities to learn and play together in mixed ensembles for the first time in many years in Medway."

"Their achievements are highly impressive. My thanks go to all who have supported the development of this wonderful initiative, including headteachers, staff, music teachers, parents and pupils. There's now a very exciting future for music in Medway."

Children's services chief Cllr Les Wicks said: "I'm pleased so many children are learning to play instruments. I hope the music centres unearth future talent here in Medway."



AT THE DOUBLE: Admirable pluck from this bassist

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Failing the victims of sexual assault

RAPE victims being examined just hours after an attack are being subjected to "sub-standard" conditions, according to a forensic medical examiner.

In many cases, women are examined in old-style police houses by male doctors who have little or no experience in gynaecology.

Dr Lucy Love, associate specialist in sexual health and a forensic medical examiner for Kent Police, said facilities in Kent are "sadly lacking".

"There is one Sexual Assault Referral Centre [SARC] in Kent at Dartford, although it's more like a service," she said. "It doesn't have some of the elements required to make it a SARC. We failed an assessment 15 months ago showing we didn't have all the essentials."

SARCs are clinics for the immediate aftermath of a sexual assault, providing medical care and forensic examination, counselling and sexual health services. According to Dr Love, the Kent facility has no crisis workers to support victims when they come in for examinations, with only a PC present. And in more shocking cases, old-style police houses used for such procedures are found uncleaned and without crucial equipment.

"There are no aftercare treatments such as the morning-after pill or antibiotics in the police houses," said Dr Love.

"Luckily, some GPs doing an examination will have the morning-after pill and other equipment with them, but there is no support literature for victims.

"I've been to some police houses which look like they haven't even been cleaned – it's shocking and needs to be addressed."

In west Kent there are six doc-

■ BY MARIJKE COX

tors on call to carry out examinations – four men and two women – with similar staffing for east Kent. Dr Love is calling on the Government to prioritise the need for an adequate service.

The Department of Health and the Home Office are aiming to have a SARC in every police area by 2011.

Dr Love said: "Because we have a service we may be overlooked, but the clinic here needs to be improved – it's sub-standard."

SARCS are part funded by the police but the Government is looking to transfer the budget and commissioning responsibility to the NHS. Primary care trusts are expected to work with local partners to ensure properly-resourced SARCS are in place.

A Department of Health official said: "We support all actions that improve the NHS response to violence against women and children. Further funding is being invested this year to support SARCS in developing care to meet minimum service standards."

A spokeswoman from Kent Police said there were four female police doctors working for the force and that the specialist clinic at Darent Valley Hospital offers much-needed support to victims.

She said the force was looking to deliver similar services in east Kent, where at the moment there are just specialist victim suites.

BRITAIN'S first wind turbine to be built on land owned by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has gone up in Kent.

Energy firm E.ON chose the Duke of York's Royal Military School in Dover for the project, which will help the MoD meet its environmental and energy targets. The school, which educates the children of serving military personnel, is a member of the Eco Schools

Wind of change at MoD school

programme. Michael Woodhead of E.ON said: "As well as the financial benefits, the turbine will be used in

lessons, helping students and staff learn about carbon reduction and renewable energy. We all need to do our bit to tackle climate change."

The turbine has three blades and stands 15 metres high.

It is connected through the estates office, where real-time data is collected and can be accessed via the school's intranet.



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Rare pair back in county

GOOD news for lovers of all things creepy-crawly – there are now two ultra-rare species back on Kent's map.

The Maid of Kent beetle was so scarce that experts believed it had become extinct in the country, while the rare spoonworm has been sighted again on the seabed off Hythe.

The beetle was found during a recent survey at the RSPB Elmley Marshes nature reserve, hiding beneath fresh cow pats.

Warden Gordon Allison said: "The site is a prime example of coastal grazing marsh. The presence of the Maid of Kent beetle at Elmley shows the benefits of good land management and how important it is for the protection of rare species found nowhere else. As well as being a great rarity in UK terms, it's a pretty smart looking insect. Most people would imagine beetles to be dull things, but the Maid of Kent is like a cross between a bumblebee and a beetle.

"It can land in fresh cow pats, burrow through them and emerge clean as a whistle on the other side."

The Maid of Kent was put on the endangered list almost a quarter of a century ago because



RETURN: Maid of Kent beetle

it hadn't been seen in the UK since 1966, and not in Kent since the 1950s. Meanwhile, Environment Agency divers have found spoonworms off Hythe, hundreds of miles from their usual habitat in the Scottish lochs.

The survey was sponsored by the Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre, with the worms found living in St Mary's Bay.

Records show spoonworms were last found in the area about 25 years ago and after their rediscovery the site could now be put forward for special protection. Tom Reid, technical specialist for the EA, said: "Spoonworms in the Channel shows there is a new habitat type that has never been described before. The area can now be considered for protection."

your letters



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YOUR LETTERS

Drunks on the road always unwelcome



I have read the Yourblogger (August 4) in which Gary Wright slams the Institute of Advanced Motorists for "busying itself with the habits of drunken cyclists".

He says he was shocked to learn that you can be fined £1,000 for riding your bike on the road while drunk, but later states that cycling while drunk is not illegal.

The fact that you can be fined does suggest to most people that it must be illegal and if Gary Wright had given it a moment's thought it might have occurred to him, too.

It is an offence under section 30 of the Road Traffic Act, 1988, to ride a cycle on a road or other public place while under the influence of drink or a drug to such an extent as to be incapable of having proper control of the cycle.

Lest he thinks this is the nanny state doing its worst, he should know that for well over 100 years the public have been protected from drunken road users.

Ever since the Licensing Act of 1872 it has been, and still is, illegal to be drunk in charge of any carriage (including pedal cycle), horse, cattle, or steam engine.

I can't comment on whether the police would bother with the offence but one of their primary objects is the protection of life and that surely includes enforcing traffic laws, hopefully with a degree of common sense and discretion.

Any organisation such as the IAM which attempts to promote road safety, even of cyclists, is surely to be commended.

Roger Mardon, by email

Airport has already been ruled out

Alongside the RSPB, Friends of the North Kent Marshes is wholly opposed to the construction of an airport anywhere in the Thames Estuary because of the immense damage it would cause to the area's internationally important wildlife and the wider environment.

The whole issue was exhaustively investigated between 2002 and 2005 in the government's Aviation White Paper. All the key players, including the aviation industry, contributed. The idea of an Estuary airport was conclusively ruled out.

Gill Moore, by email

yourblogger

BJ Tritton wonders if his generation can ever be forgiven for such a toxic financial legacy



"A YOUNG man who isn't a socialist hasn't got a heart. An old man who is a socialist hasn't got a head."

So said David Lloyd George. And now we ageing baby boomers are getting the blame for leaving the younger generation to pay for our supposed profligacy.

I cannot help but feel this is a distortion. All my life I have defended the welfare state, supported the NHS, had doubts about the free market and felt concern about the economics of home ownership – to name but a few beliefs which could be labeled "socialist".

As a young man, I believed hunger, poverty and inequality could be eradicated. I was aware that for this to happen, especially on a worldwide basis, my own circumstances would be reduced. I was prepared for that, believing quality of life had little to do with the sybaritic standards developing in our society.

I voted for these things, campaigned for these things, made my feelings known – often to disapprobation, if not ridicule, from my peers. Not all of them; there were many who felt the same way. But nothing happened. The inequalities and economic absurdities continued.

My wife and I gave up good jobs and moved to rural Wales, eking out a living in tourism and agriculture, believing there was a possibility capitalism would collapse. Still nothing happened. Despite recession in the early 1970s, society recovered and began to rebuild the house of cards again. Then something happened to me.

The heart began to lose its influence and the head took precedence. By now we had three sons. I realised it was not my place to inflict upon them a lower stan-

dard of living, but to give them all the advantages I could. If they later chose to deny materialism, that had to be their decision, not mine.

I went back to the rat race, played the property game, took financial risks. Am I partly to blame for the imminent collapse of the welfare state? For the debt we are foisting on the younger generation? Of course I am.

Every individual has a responsibility for the society in which they live. But to blame a whole generation for taking advantage of a situation into which we were actively encouraged is absurd. We did it for our children. We are still doing it for our children. Baby boomers are acting as unpaid child minders, subsidising middle-aged children with families, still supporting the generation we are accused of abandoning.

Yes, I fear for the future. I grew up with a welfare state and the NHS. To see it withering away frightens me for the sake of coming generations. I am equally concerned that essential aspects of society are threatened while unnecessary and immoral elements such as Trident renewal seem to survive.

As an individual – and there are many like me – I am more than prepared, for the sake of the generations we are accused of abandoning to an insecure future, to pay more taxes to support a welfare state.

Not, I think, an attitude of a greedy, inconsiderate, parasitic baby boomer. To take from those who can afford it is a better road than to cut services to those who need them. As to those coming generations to whom we are leaving such a poisoned legacy; I admit to my part. Now take your part. Hopefully, you can make a better job of it than we did.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on 01303 817185 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Flawed plan would devastate estuary

I agree with the RSPB's Andre Farrar that London Mayor Boris Johnson's plan is flawed.

It's not just the airport but the additional paraphernalia, the barriers that would connect the airport to Essex and Kent. Experience shows placing a barrier across an estuary brings long-term and profound impacts to flood defences upstream and to the coasts that have to receive the water that can no longer enter the Thames. At every level this is an unwelcome threat to our coast.

Joan Darwell, Friends of the North Kent Marshes



• Boris Johnson was clearly impressed by Istanbul's Ataturk International airport. But, please, can we all try and avoid him being delayed. It gave him time to think, and try to breathe life into his

flawed dream of building a huge airport in the Thames Estuary. So if you see Boris waiting for plane, please buy him a good book. What about How Green Was My Airport? Not at all, Boris.

George Crozer

Cash cow cameras looking for trouble



It would be a good idea to get rid of speed cameras as they were only put in place to make money.

Do they really stop people from speeding? According to the Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership, 33,400 speeding tickets were issued to motorists in 2008/09 and earned more than £2 million.

Why do they always mention how much was made if it is for safety and not money making?

Just how many speeding tickets were issued to motorists driving a few miles an hour over the limit

late at night? Why is it that a motorist who does 5mph over the limit pay the same penalty as someone doing 8mph over the limit? Anyone who drives at ridiculous speeds should have their car confiscated anyway.

The road safety minister, Mike Penning, says the government is delivering on its pledge to "end the war on the motorist".

If that is so, he should look into these CCTV spy cars that are patrolling our streets. They are there solely to make money and they appear to be illegal.

They are driven by so called civil enforcement officers, but the job of an enforcement officer, whether civil or the police, is to prevent crime, not go looking for it.

If you receive a penalty charge notice issued by one of those civil enforcement officers and you disagree with it, you have to prove yourself innocent.

I always thought in this country you were innocent until proven guilty. It is also wrong for them to park dangerously to photograph motorists. Surely it must be just as dangerous for them as us?

Peter Nassan, Chatham, by email

Hold back on those hedge trimmers

You might be getting frustrated by straggly foliage or unruly tree branches which appear to be taking over your garden, but the RSPB is asking that you hold back on the

trimming. Along with millions of other gardeners, you are probably thinking about cutting your hedges ready for winter in the next few weeks. But you could still have late nesters hidden in among the greenery, so it's worth waiting a while before you get out the trimmers.

The RSPB receives a lot of calls from people that have started hedge trimming and discovered a nest. It is disturbing for gardeners to think they have upset their garden birds and they worry that they may fly the nest and the young won't survive. You can save yourself a job and wait for a few weeks, ideally until late September at the earliest. If you do need to do it sooner for safety reasons perhaps, try to replace any greenery as much as possible so as not to deter the birds.

Most garden birds breed between March and August, but some species will be on their nests until late September.

Cutting this early could also starve birds and mammals of a vital food supply. Many plants will still have an abundance of berries which could see the birds through the winter. Last year's winter larder of berries on shrubs and hedges meant the difference between life and death for many resident birds and winter visitors.

The RSPB is also urging local authorities to hold back on cutting hedges for a few weeks yet, where possible. Many have to cut hedges for path access or horticultural reasons, but where there is flexibility, the wildlife charity suggests waiting until the end of summer.

If maintenance is unavoidable at this time, the RSPB asks that gardeners, local authorities and contractors consider nesting birds and do preliminary inspections.

For more on gardening for wildlife, visit www.rspb.org.uk/hfw.

Sophie McCallum, RSPB

Quarry warning one that needs heeding

With the school holidays in full flow, young people will be looking for excitement and places to hang out with their friends.

I would like to appeal to parents in your area to ensure that their youngsters are not tempted to enter into local quarries uninvited.

Over the past two years, six young people have died through falls or drowning at the sites of former mineral workings.

As part of our annual campaign, the Mineral Products Association has launched a Facebook page – Stay Safe... Stay Out of Quarries – which highlights not just what can happen if you venture into a quarry without permission, but also the huge impact the death of a young person in a quarry accident has on their friends and families.

The video is about the deaths of Jay Harris and Ryan Walker, two teenagers who died in quarry accidents last year. We also have a YouTube video under the same title.

They are resources we hope parents and other members of the community will use to help deliver our warning.

Elizabeth Clements,
Mineral Products Association



ON SONG: Former Spandau Ballet lead singer Tony Hadley was amongst the stars taking part last year

Star-studded day on course to top £2m for charity

COMEDIAN Dave Lee is hitting the golf course with a host of celebrities to help raise funds to send disabled, underprivileged and terminally ill children on holiday.

The event will bring together avid golfers and stars of stage and screen to battle it out for the title of champion, while raising money for Dave Lee's Happy Holidays.

Last year, Spandau Ballet frontman Tony Hadley and ex-footballer Neil Ruddock were among the 30 celebrities involved and around £25,000 was raised.

The aim is to raise hopefully more this year. Celebrities expected to attend include comedians Jim Davidson, Bradley Walsh, Joe Pasquale, TV presenter Stephen Mulhern, ex EastEnders' stars Emma Barton and Shaun Williamson, plus from the world of sport Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp and former boxing world champ Barry McGuigan.

For Dave, from Herne, near Canterbury, this year's golf day is even more significant, with the charity close to reaching the £2 million mark in money raised since it started in 1994.

"Everybody would be so pleased if we reached

■ BY ROSANNA TENNANT

this target," said Dave. "The charity is run by volunteers – nobody is paid – with all money raised going towards holidays for disabled, underprivileged and terminally ill children from Kent.

"We've got five holiday homes at Camber Sands and we've sent more than 45,000 children and their families on holidays."

Trips have included Tenerife, Disneyland Paris and Disney World in Florida.

Some 1,200 children are also sent to see a Christmas pantomime. This year's Marlowe Theatre panto will be Robin Hood and Dave will be starring as Nurse Nelly, nurse maid to Maid Marion.

Auction

The KOS Media sponsored charity golf is on Sunday, September 5, at Chart Hills golf club in Biddenden.

A charity dinner in the evening, which last year saw 350 guests, will include a cabaret act from Bobby Davro, music from Chas Hodges – formerly of Chas and Dave – and his band, plus an auction.

For visitors, the gates open at 10am and



RAISE A SMILE: Dave Lee's charity hopes to hit £2m mark

admission is £5 (children free). There will be free parking, a bar and on course catering. The event organisers are expecting between 2,000 and 12,000 people.

Teams of three are being encouraged to sign up to play, with a celebrity picked to play with them. The cost is £700, including 18 holes of golf on the Nick Faldo designed course, breakfast, pre-dinner drinks and a four-course meal.

Those wanting to come only to the dinner can pay £85 (per head?)

It looks set to be a great day out for all the family, with autograph opportunities and the chance to chat with celebrities so don't forget your camera.

To sign up, call Mr Aylward on 01732 456505 or 07834 468664 or email daveleehappyholidays@tiscali.co.uk.



We now have a pick-up point in Medway

Please call for more details on day excursions and tours

Days Out

<p>Burn The Floor at the Shaftesbury Theatre, London Thursday 2 September London's hot new musical! £55.00</p>	<p>Cockney Sing Along at Bricklane Music Hall Friday 17 September A great day out for all! £39.00 includes afternoon tea</p>	<p>Westfield Shopping Centre Saturday 25 September You will be spoilt for choice at this great London Shopping Centre! £19.00</p>	<p>The Alan Titchmarsh Show at the BBC Television Studios on Tuesday 28 September £19.00</p>
<p>Greenwich and 3 course carvery lunch Sunday 19 September Enjoy free time in Greenwich before a delicious 3 course lunch for just £32.00</p>	<p>Stitch & Craft Show at Esher, Surrey Sunday 19 September Come & discover new and exciting ideas with us! Adults: £26.00 Seniors £25.00</p>	<p>Birmingham Military Tattoo Sunday 28 November Experience the world's finest military bands and spectacular displays as they perform a three-hour spectacular. £65.00</p>	<p>Strictly Come Dancing Tour at the O2 Arena Saturday 22 January Sunday 23 January £69.00</p>

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DAY & NIGHT

Chance to tread boards

ASPIRING actors are invited to take part in the next production at Medway Little Theatre in Rochester.

Director Gwen Whippy is seeking five newcomers to play roles of both genders and various ages in *Hobson's Choice*, from October 5 to 16.

Call Gwen for an audition on 01634 371570 or email adgp@blueyonder.co.uk.

Walking for charity

WALKERS are invited to help support local charity CLIC Sargent.

Chatham Rotary Club is holding a sponsored 7.75-mile walk in aid of the good cause on Sunday, starting from Dockside Outlet Centre in Chatham.

To download a sponsorship form visit www.docksideshopping.co.uk or go to www.chathamrotary.org.uk.

Angels' designs on litter

THE Litter Angels workshops continue at the Polka Dot Art Centre this week with the theme of pots and masks.

In next Wednesday's final session, visitors will make creatures out of rubbish.

The workshops for seven to 15-year-olds run from 10.30am to 12.30pm and cost £5. For details call 01795 521167 or visit www.polkadotac.co.uk.

Back to the Fifties

ROCK and roll the night away when Ricky Fontayne performs in Sheerness.

The 50s and 60s tribute artist will be at Sheerness Holiday Park in Halfway Road at 8.45pm on Friday. For details about the venue call 0845 815 9761.

More information about Ricky can be found online at www.rickyfontayne.com.

Find Holy Grail at castle

ENJOY a comedy classic in the great outdoors when Leeds Castle hosts open-air cinema this weekend.

Monty Python and the Holy Grail will be shown on a big screen at the castle near Maidstone on Saturday. Tickets cost £10 plus a £2.50 booking fee. To book call 01622 880008 or visit www.leeds-castle.com.

Soul singer at store

SINGER Dionne Bromfield will be performing songs from her debut album at Bluewater on Thursday.

Bromfield is the goddaughter of fellow singer Amy Winehouse and she will be demonstrating her great soul voice at the new Juicy Couture store from 3pm to 6pm.

She will sing two songs and will also sign autographs for her fans.

Space chimps on screen

SEE more adventures of Comet the techno chimp when *Space Chimps 2* is shown in Chatham.

Space Chimps 2 (cert U) will be shown at the Central Theatre from Friday to next Thursday. Tickets are priced from £3.50 to £4.25.

To book call 01634 338338 or go online at www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebookings.

Music, laughter and panto fun

NEW SEASON

Various dates
Hazlitt Arts Centre, Maidstone

WHETHER you are looking for big laughs or big tunes, the Hazlitt's autumn and winter season has plenty to offer.

Anyone who feels the seasonal blues once summer fades away should take a look at the new programme, which features huge names in the fields of comedy, music, theatre and dance.

Find out about the colourful life of comedian Alexei Sayle in September when he presents *Stalin Ate My Homework: A Memoir*. Sayle looks back at his upbringing as a son of Communist parents and his childhood in Eastern Europe, exploring the confusion it created and how he became a teenage Maoist.

More big characters are lined up for the new season, including former MP Gyles Brandreth. Having been a government whip, actor, author and BBC One Show reporter, Brandreth is now turning his famous wit to the art of stand-up and he will be entertaining a Maidstone audience with his *One-to-One Show* in February.

Also on the comedy line-up are comic magician Peter Firmin, family show *Monster High* and regular stand-up nights in the Exchange Studio.

The Vienna Festival Ballet returns to perform *Sleeping Beauty* in November, which will be an unmissable highlight for any ballet fan. Celebrating 30 years in the dance business, the company presents an elegant and captivating production of this much-loved fairytale, set to Tchaikovsky's beautiful music.

Four local schools will stage some of the Bard's timeless work as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival in October, before a legendary fictional detective takes to the stage later that month.

Robert Llewellyn brings Sherlock Holmes to life in intriguing style as the master sleuth delves into his most mysterious case yet – the matter of his own psyche. Blending humour and wit with drama and pathos, this acclaimed production takes a closer look at one of fiction's most fascinating heroes.

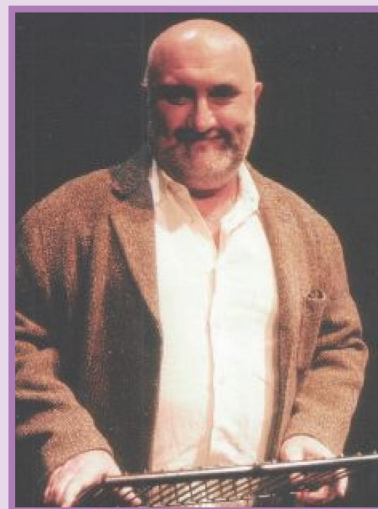
Enter a world of chilling world of repression and cowardice in November, when *The Crucible* is staged at the Hazlitt Theatre. Arthur Miller's masterpiece explores one of humanity's darkest hours as it tells the story of the 17th century witch hunts that devastated a community in Salem, Massachusetts.

West End and television star Claire Sweeney will be appearing in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Don Black's musical, *Tell Me On a Sunday*. Musical fans have a rare chance to see this definite version in September, along with an exclusive new song, *I Still Believe in Love*.

Sweeney stars as an English girl looking for



STAR LINE-UP: Clockwise, from above: Gyles Brandreth, Claire Sweeney and Alexei Sayle will all be appearing at the Hazlitt Arts Centre this season



love in New York, but discovering she might be looking in all the wrong places.

The music programme includes performances by local acoustic act Fred Clark, the Blues Band, Marty Wilde and the Wildcats, the Bon Jovi Experience and acclaimed Eagles tribute act, Talon. Fans of Chas 'n' Dave are in for a treat when Chas pays a visit, along with his band, for the Rock Rabbit and Roll Tour.

This year's pantomime will be *Beauty and the Beast*. EastEnders star Melissa Suffield will take a break from Albert Square to appear in the magical tale, alongside former *Emmerdale* actor Ben Freeman.

For full listings and booking information, visit www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk. Tickets can be booked online or by calling the box office on 01622 758611.





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With a well-equipped treatment centre and fully-qualified staff, the company is able to offer a professional hair, beauty and holistic experience to their clients and businesses.

The services are intended to be relaxing, rewarding and enjoyable, enabling clients to feel totally pampered and rejuvenated.

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Specialising in male grooming, Karen's Karma offers Turkish wet shaving for men with cut-throat razors and hot towels. Both men and women are offered the whole pampering experience.

Karen's Karma offers all types of massage and reflexology, as well as manicures, pedicures, facials, waxing, body treatments including cellulite treatments and inch loss wraps, eyelash tinting, perming and enhancements, spray tanning and tanning by hand.

Karen's Karma is open from Monday to Wednesday from 9am to 5.30pm, Thursday from 9am to 9pm and from 9am to 5.30pm on Friday and Saturday.

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PAUL DUNTON AND GUESTS

Thursday, August 19, Pizza Express, Maidstone

DISCOVER some of Kent's best musical talent when Paul Dunton brings his Guests to Maidstone once again.

The singer-songwriter's popular candlelit showcase has been entertaining audiences in Tunbridge Wells for years.

Thursday's headline act will be four-piece rock band Intraverse, pictured, performing stripped-down, acoustic versions of the songs that have impressed BBC Radio 1 DJs, Huw Stephens and Steve Lamacq.

Steve McCormack is considered one of the area's finest guitarists and his skills are much in

demand. This week the singer-songwriter performs with his Trio.

Aged just 17, Louise Orfila from Dover has already made a big noise on the local music scene. She has been writing songs since the age of 13 and her album is available on iTunes.

Completing the line-up is host Paul Dunton and his Crew, performing his brand of pop fused with classical influences.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets, priced at £7, are available in advance by calling 0845 602 7017 or visit www.pizzaexpresslive.com.



KENT YOUTH DANCE COMPANY

Friday, August 20, Hazlitt Arts Centre, Maidstone

PROFESSIONAL dancers work with talented young people to create the latest production by Kent Youth Dance Company.

Now in its third year, the company offers the chance for gifted young dancers to receive coaching from three professionals. The experts then perform alongside the rising stars in a showcase of their collective talent, which embraces a wide variety of dance styles.

Many of the performers this year are from the Maidstone area and the resulting show is a testament to their talent, along with the dedication of the profes-

sional dancers who give their time to help with the project. The young dancers can experience being part of a dance company for two weeks and give two performances.

With the title Excerpts and Originals 3, this year's show features dance from Snow White the Ballet, Footloose and Swing Time, along with other entertaining routines.

The performance starts at 7pm and tickets cost £11 for adults and £9 for children. To book call the box office on 01622 758611 or visit the website at www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk.



RIVERFORD TRAVELLING FIELD KITCHEN

Thursday, August 19, to Sunday, August 29, Mole End Farm, Maidstone

RIVERFORD will be serving up a taste of nature when the company's Travelling Field Kitchen visits Maidstone.

Based on the award-winning restaurant in Devon, the mobile gastronomic experience aims to give people a seasonal delight by serving up lunches and suppers. Consumers across Kent already enjoy fresh vegetables, thanks to Riverford's award-winning organic vegbox scheme and this is a chance to taste those ingredients in use.

Visiting the restaurant in a yurt will also give people the chance to see local produce being grown at Mole End Farm, where a variety of fruits such as apples, pears and plums can be found.

The Travelling Field Kitchen produces dishes such as braised artichokes with broad beans and mint, Swiss chard and anchovy gratin and new potatoes, followed by rhubarb and strawberry crumble, summer berry pavlova or apricot and almond tart.

Two-course lunches are £17.50, or £22.50 for three-course suppers. Call 01803 762062 or visit www.riverford.co.uk/homefarm.



DATE WITH NATURE

Running until Tuesday, August 31, Leeds Castle, near Maidstone

TAKE your family on a date with nature as Leeds Castle plays host to a world of wildlife.

Visitors to the 12th century castle have the chance to learn more about the lives of Kent's water birds, at a viewing area set up by the RSPB. Following a successful breeding season, the lakes are full of life as chicks venture out of the nest to spread their wings in the big wide world.

Visitors can see great crested grebes, moorhens and coots teaching their youngsters how to use their water wings this month.

The RSPB viewing area is equipped with telescopes and binoculars to help people get a closer look, while staff and volunteers are on hand to explain more about the castle's wildlife.

"This is a busy time of year with all the young birds on the water," said James McComiskey, Date with Nature officer.

"The parents are being kept busy trying to keep an eye on their young and teaching them to be independent. You'll be able to watch them practising their feeding and flying skills."

For details visit www.rspb.org.uk/datewithnature.



ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN

Saturday, August 28, Orchard Theatre, Dartford

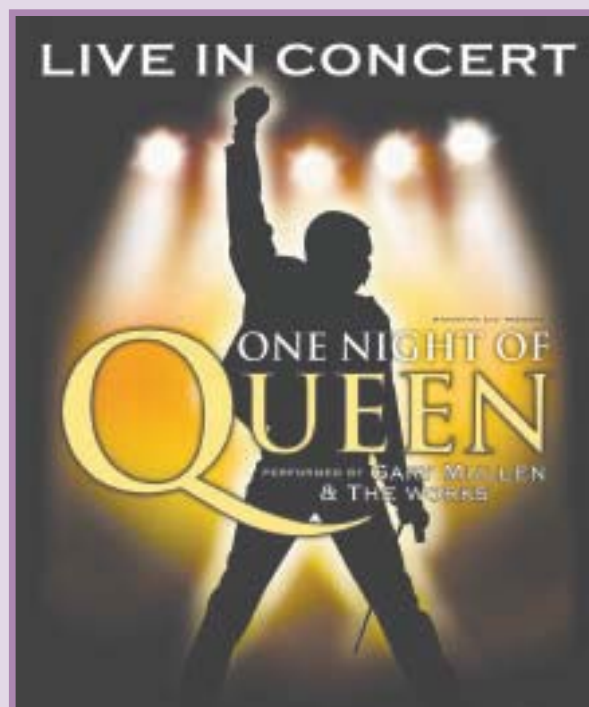
SPEND one night in the company of a music icon when top tribute artist Gary Mullen visits Kent.

Along with his band, The Works, Mullen brings the spirit of Freddie Mercury back to the life stage in the popular tribute show, One Night of Queen. With this homage to one of the greatest ever showmen and a much-loved rock band, fans can enjoy the timeless songs played live once again and hear an uncanny impersonation of Mercury's unforgettable voice.

Mullen shot to fame when he appeared on the ITV talent show, Stars in Their Eyes, in 2000. The Scottish karaoke fan won the series with a landslide victory when he polled nearly 865,000 votes and his life changed overnight. Since then, the former computer salesman has travelled the world with this celebration of Queen's music.

Featuring such hits as We Will Rock You, Bohemian Rhapsody, We Are the Champions and Radio Ga Ga, the show will rock Queen fans for one night only.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £19.50/£17.50. Book online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01322 220000.



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AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	20°C	Madrid	25°C
Athens	37°C	New York	26°C
Barcelona	25°C	Paris	15°C
Beijing	33°C	Rome	27°C
Bombay	29°C	Sydney	18°C
Cape Town	20°C	Tenerife	26°C
Cardiff	19°C	Tokyo	34°C
Gibraltar	26°C	Vancouver	27°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	28°C
Las Palmas	25°C	Wellington	10°C

KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	11:22am 5.1m	Sunday	12:18pm 5.5m
Dover	Saturday	9:51am 5.7m	Sunday	10:39am 6.0m
Dungeness	Saturday	9:27am 6.1m	Sunday	10:24am 6.5m
Ramsgate	Saturday	10:21am 4.3m	Sunday	11:09am 4.5m
Sheerness	Saturday	11:11am 5.0m	Sunday	12:07pm 5.3m
Whitstable	Saturday	11:19am 4.7m	Sunday	12:14pm 4.9m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon													Whitstable	Sunday	11:19am 4:7m	Sunday	12:34pm 4:5m						
Ashford	18°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	21°C	Dover	17°C	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	Gravesend	19°C	20°C	21°C	22°C	23°C	Sevensalls	17°C	17°C	18°C	20°C	20°C		SUNRISE	5:45am	SUNSET	8:13pm
Canterbury	18°C	20°C	20°C	22°C	22°C	Faversham	18°C	19°C	19°C	21°C	21°C	Maidstone	18°C	19°C	20°C	21°C	21°C	Sittingbourne	18°C	19°C	19°C	21°C	21°C					
Chatham	18°C	19°C	19°C	21°C	21°C	Folkestone	17°C	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	Ramsgate	18°C	20°C	20°C	22°C	22°C	Tonbridge	18°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	21°C		MOONRISE	4:42pm	MOONSET	-
Dartford	19°C	20°C	21°C	22°C	23°C	Gillingham	18°C	19°C	19°C	21°C	21°C	Rochester	18°C	19°C	19°C	21°C	21°C	Ten Wells	18°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	21°C					

 SUNRISE 5:45am **SUNSET** 8:13pm MOONRISE 4:42pm MOONSET -

MARTHA'S

TRAIL OF CITIES

3

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yourcompetition

WIN! An exclusive VIP package for you and your friend with hedkandi



TO CELEBRATE Hed Kandi's fashion launch and the opening of its first store at Bluewater, Kent, on Thursday, August 19, Hed Kandi is offering the chance to win an exclusive VIP experience for a reader and their best friend!

The prize includes:

- The ultimate Hed Kandi Fashion outfit of your choice for you and your friend
- Hair, make-up and nails by top Hed Kandi professionals
- You and your friend strut your stuff in the Hed Kandi fashion show at Bluewater on Saturday, August 21
- A professional photographer will capture your catwalk moment
- Leave with a bag of fabulous Hed Kandi goodies

To enter this money-can't-buy competition, please answer the following question: Hed Kandi is famous for its glamorous club nights across the globe. Which club in Ibiza is it at this summer?

- A: Space
B: Pacha
C: Es Paradis

Please send your answer on a postcard with your contact number to: Hed Kandi Competition, Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, London SE1 6DP, or via email to: hedkandicompetition@hedkandi.com. The closing date is Friday, August 20.

The winner will be contacted on the number provided on Friday, August 20, and must be available on Saturday, August 21.

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature, please write 'no literature' on your entry.

The new Hed Kandi Fashion collection offers the ultimate range of party wear and casual glam. The range includes fabulous dresses, skirts, tops, jackets, footwear and accessories. Limited-edition styles ensure exclusivity. Sizes range from 6-16.

Join us for the celebrations from Thursday 19 through to Saturday 21.



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Airbender fails to come out on top in battle for our hearts and minds

■ BY DAMON SMITH

MIGHT Shyamalan is an odd choice to direct a special effects-laden adventure based on the popular Nickelodeon animated TV series, *Avatar: The Last Airbender*.

After all, this is the filmmaker who allowed us all to see dead people in *The Sixth Sense*, created a modern day superhero in *Unbreakable* and allowed an enraged Mother Nature to slaughter most of mankind in *The Happening*.

The *Last Airbender* is a very different beast: a big budget journey of discovery, punctuated by sprawling battle sequences on a similarly grand scale to *The Lord Of The Rings* trilogy, that relies heavily on spectacle rather than substance or Shyamalan's famed narrative twists.

The writer-director juggles the myriad technical elements, but he is occasionally let down by unconvincing digital effects that look more like a cartoon than live action.

Moreover, some of the performances are more wooden than the gargantuan sets, creating repeated moments of unintentional hilarity that cuts through the dramatic tension.

The worst offender is a seemingly innocuous line from a village elder about her young charge being "the last bender" for miles.

Orphaned siblings Sokka (Jackson Rathbone) and Katara (Nicola Peltz) discover a young boy called Aang (Noah Ringer) frozen in the ice near their village.

The tyke is covered in strange tattoos and the siblings surmise that Aang must be the Avatar, destined to manipulate the four elements (air, water, earth, fire).

No sooner have the children arrived back at their village than outcast Prince Zuko (Dev Patel) from the Fire Nation and his soldiers capture Aang and hold him hostage aboard their ship. Thankfully, the prisoner escapes and begins the journey back to his temple, accompanied by Sokka and Katara.



Picture: PA Photo/Panorama

TATTOED STRANGER: Noah Ringer as Aang, the Avatar who faces the tough task of stopping the Fire Nation enslaving the Water, Air and Earth Nations

Meanwhile, Zuko's father Fire Lord Ozai (Cliff Curtis) entreats trusted Commander Zhao (Asif Mandvi) to find Aang, and prevent the boy from achieving his destiny.

The *Last Airbender* screens in 3D in select cinemas, but the increasingly popular format was an afterthought, so don't bother paying the additional ticket prices for the honour of wearing uncomfortable plastic spectacles.

A caption card at the beginning reads Book

One: Water and it quickly becomes clear that this is the first film in a potential series.

It's hard to imagine subsequent chapters ever making it to the big screen.

Ringer is a likeable hero, struggling to comprehend his pre-ordained path, and Patel wrings as much pathos as possible from his underwritten role as the exiled prodigal son.

Watery special effects aren't convincing, and a pivotal scene in which one character sacri-

fices their life for the good of mankind fails to bring a tear to the eye.

"[Aang] will begin to win hearts because it's in hearts that all wars are won," says one sage.

Regrettably, in the battle for our hearts and minds, Shyamalan comes up short.

THE LAST AIRBENDER 
Certificate PG



CHALLENGE: Amish teenagers are thrown in at the deep end of British culture



YOUR TV REVIEW

AMISH: WORLD'S SQUAREST TEENAGERS: Channel 4, 8pm, Sunday

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

WHEN a television programme puts God-fearing Amish teenagers with their British counterparts to experience the extremes of our society, we know we can expect tantrums, shouting and denunciations.

But watching *'Amish: World's Squarest Teenagers'* that is precisely not what we get.

Channel 4's latest reality television offering went for the usual inflammatory mix of people who really should never meet.

In this case, the cast was barn-raising, electricity-shunning Christians and a parade of Britain's finest ghetto kids, festival-goers and toffs.

The programme was interspersed with bible-readings from an Amish elder, showing the Good Book disproving of the English teenagers' wild and wicked ways.

But instead of Wife Swap-style

recriminations, there was something absolutely wonderful about watching these quiet, calm, thoughtful youngsters learning about how we live.

Instead of telling everyone they are damned to a fiery afterlife, the five Amish youngsters, who had never drunk, smoked, heard rock music or encountered crime before, learned incredibly touching lessons from their British counterparts.

When welcomed on to a London estate by a family and shown stabbing sites and urban dancing, the three boys and two girls wonder at the warmth they are shown. They even accept provocative dancing may actually be a good thing if it keeps teenagers off the streets.

During the weekly show we got to

see the amazement on the teenagers' faces when they saw the sea for the first time, share one of the girls' joy when she danced for the first time, and watch when the Christians joined a choir to pay tribute to a 14-year-old who has been stabbed.

The Americans also relaxed their strict rules to paint, go shopping and play the guitar.

And the English vagabonds learned lessons too. The inner-city kids were trashed at rounders by the active Americans, and the festival-loving girls were provoked into deep thought about the way they dress.

The episodes were not without tensions, troubles and tears, but the individuals gave a refreshing break from the usual shouting matches.

This series was the true social experiment the reality TV genre had been lacking for years.

Reader Holidays

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Isle of Wight Christmas Party at Warner Norton Grange 3 Nights from only £199pp

Friday 5 to 8 Nov 2010 Tour NG11-2

Norton Grange, the friendly Warner Resort on the seafront at Yarmouth, on the Isle of Wight, is ideal for our fun-filled Christmas Party - for over 40s only - featuring cabaret and variety entertainment, good food, great entertainment and a Free Bar every day - perfect for a pre-Christmas get together.

Price includes:

- **FREE Bar** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped

soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.

- Full programme of variety entertainment and activities
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded en-suite chalet - upgrades available - Standard Plus £219pp - Premier £229pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry - min 2 per car



Free Car Ferry | Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Mamma Mia Christmas Party at Warner Bembridge Coast 3 Nights from only £259pp

Friday 12 to 15 Nov 2010
Tour MM11 Last Few Places!

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Variety Entertainment & Activities programme including Abba Tribute Band & Mamma Mia movie screening
- Fireworks display
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing an en-suite Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Sea-view Room - £274pp
- Signature Room - £304pp
- Royale Room - £319pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included - min 2 people per car



Come Dancing Party at Warner Bembridge 3 Nights from only £259pp

Friday 14 to 17 Jan 2011 Tour MB1

Our Bembridge Dance breaks were a sell-out in 2009 and 2010 so we're doing it all again in 2011. There will be Ballroom and Latin dancing, tuition for beginners and improvers, top dancers in cabaret and a Grand Ball & variety entertainment. And with an 8,860sq ft dance floor, you won't be short of space. There's plenty going on for non-dancers, and, there's Free Drinks too.

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Nightly entertainment & dancing
- 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Sea-view Room £274pp
- Signature Room - £304pp
- Royale Room - £319pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna,
- **Travel:** Self drive including car ferry - min 2 people per car

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Free Car Ferry | Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Carry on New Year Party at Warner Sinah Warren 3 Nights from only £229pp

Friday 7 to 10 Jan 2011 Tour WS

Here's an opportunity - for over 40s only - to extend the New Year celebrations at Sinah Warren, Warner's luxury hotel on Hayling Island. There'll be live entertainment every evening and, to help the party go with a swing, there's Free Drinks too.

Price includes:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23.00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped

soft drinks & mixers, house wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.

- Full programme of entertainment & activities
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available - Sea-view Room £244pp Signature Room £274pp - Royal Room £289pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool & sauna pool
- **Travel:** Self drive



Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Michael Jackson Party at Warner Bembridge 3 Nights from only £239pp

Friday 25 to 28 Feb 2011 Tour MB2

Join us for a Fabulous Michael Jackson Party on the Isle of Wight Warner's Bembridge Coast Hotel will resound to the sights and sounds of the King of Pop as our fabulous party weekend includes nightly entertainment, a screening of the movie This Is It and a Michael Jackson tribute act featuring the songs of the Jackson Five as well as Michael's biggest hits. There's also a Free Bar.

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Nightly entertainment
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing an Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Seaview Room £254pp
- Signature Room - £284pp
- Royale Room - £299pp
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included - min 2 people



Bembridge Coast Hotel

A super, modern hotel set on a glorious part of the east coast of the Isle of Wight with great sea views of the Solent. There's plenty to do during the day as well as live entertainment every night. Have a cooked breakfast each morning, or choose from a range of lighter options. For dinner, help yourself to a full carvery or opt for an à la carte 3-course menu served to your table. Accommodation is in light and airy Ambassador rooms, which have an ensuite bathroom, TV with radio, complimentary toiletries, lounge chairs, tea and coffee making facilities, telephone and hairdryer - upgrades available.

- Our Party Breaks include a free bar from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday and 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday for house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee. (*Mamma Mia Free Bar 6 to 11pm daily)



Call **01895 83 33 33** For more information quoting the tour code

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yourmusic

Intimate gig is a real must-see



MAKING IT BIG: Hadouken – 'grimey beats and a dollop of fluoro-pop sensibility'

SYNTH stars Hadouken are heading to Kent later this year as part of their 14-date UK tour.

The energetic fluorescent-loving five-piece, who take their name from a once-mindblowing move in the legendary Street Fighter game series – will perform at Ashford School's Brake Hall on Friday, October 29.

It's a must-see for all you grime/electro/rap crossover fans.

The Leeds-based outfit, who formed in 2006, have already built up a loyal fanbase across the UK and are on the verge of making it big, and they've got that Klaxons-esque multi-genre sound to thank for their success.

HMV described them as "a collision of grimey beats, razor-sharp lyrical dissection of nightlife and a whole dollop of fluoro-pop sensibility".

Add the catchiest of catchy beats and an infectious hyper and eager frontman in James Smith and you're half way to cap-

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

turing the full Hadouken effect.

The band's debut album, *Music For An Accelerated Culture*, sold more than 100,000 copies and saw them take the Best Electronic Artist/DJ category at the BT Digital Music Award in 2008.

Last year's follow-up album *For the Masses* drew similar praise and more is expected of their third, as yet unnamed, release.

Hadouken's Ashford gig was lined up after the band decided to spice up their latest tour by playing smaller shows.

With mainstream success on the horizon, it may be some time before Hadouken return to Ashford, so buy your ticket now.

The Brake Hall show is run in association with online radio station Filth FM, founded by Thomas Webb, who will also be DJing.

Support comes in the form of Out Like A Lion, whose single *Back to Front* is out next month.

The four-piece, who've supported the likes of Florence and the

Machine and Babushambles, played Glastonbury and Ashford's own Create Festival this year.

Tickets are £15 from www.seetickets.com or www.hadouken.com.



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Happy Daze - 28/8 The Drum Stanford
- 2 Fred Clark - 01/0 Hazlitt Theatre Maidstone
- 3 The Suspects - 4/9 King Edward VII in Margate
- 4 A Thousand Lights - 22/9 University of Kent, Canterbury
- 5 Craig Sheridan - 24/9 Mill Inn Deal



TAKE IT EASY: Get away from the hustle and bustle of the main waterways on South Walsham Broad – the only private broad in Norfolk

yourgetaways

Why holiday Norfolk is more than just the beautiful Broads

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

AS my 13-year-old son and I paddled our canoe from the narrow waterway, which had us ducking vegetation like something from a King Kong film (his description), we suddenly burst out on to the South Walsham Broad.

I bet no-one who saw us skimming across the expanse of still water, surrounded by lush, green countryside, would have guessed that half an hour earlier neither of us had been in a canoe before – it was easy.

South Walsham Broad is the only private broad among the 120-odd miles of waterways that make up Norfolk's biggest tourist draw.

The Broads are beautiful, and while parts are packed with pleasure craft, you can easily escape the crowds.

I was surprised to learn that the Broads are man-made. Peat dug for heat between the 1100s and 1300s filled as sea levels rose and by the 16th century the navigable Broads became a vital part of the county's transport system.

Norfolk boasts more medieval churches per square mile than anywhere else in the world (it also has a tradition of village signs too, which show the history of the village – there are more than 500).

We stayed in a beautiful cottage in the tiny village of New Buckenham, 300 yards from a Norman castle, 10 miles south of Norwich, but lightyears away from the 21st century.

The village shop, a two-minute walk away before breakfast, boasted 'Provisions' on its sign. Unfortunately bread wasn't deliv-

FACT FILE: NORFOLK

Gary Wright was a guest of Norfolk Country Cottages.

His family stayed at the three-bedroom Carpenter's Cottage in New Buckenham (right) costing £400 and £550 for the week. More details of holiday homes and accommodation at www.norfolkcottages.co.uk.

Contact direct on 01603 871872 or email info@norfolkcottages.co.uk

For more details of holidaying in Norfolk see www.visitnorfolk.co.uk

Fairhaven Woodland Water Garden on South Walsham Broad offers canoeing, boat tours, spectacular gardens, 3.5 miles of woodland paths. More at www.fairhavengarden.co.uk

North Norfolk Railway. Steam and vintage diesel trains Sheringham, Weybourne and Holt. www.nnrailway.co.uk

Wroxham Barns is well worth a visit to shop,



eat and relax. Craft shops, junior farm, restaurant and café and a new adventure golf course. www.wroxhambarns.co.uk

Broadland Cycling Hire. Explore the countryside around the broads on a bicycle from Hoveton. Visit www.broadlandcyclinghire.co.uk or call 01603 783096 for details.

Also thanks to Hyundai for the loan of the Santa Fe CRD 4x4 for the week in Norfolk.

ered until later and there wouldn't be any eggs until tomorrow.

Just up the road though, outside a rambling home, were plenty of eggs at 90p a dozen with an honesty box alongside. There were even pictures of 'the girls' who'd laid them.

Much of Norfolk feels like that, and there were lots of honesty boxes for all manner of local produce. It can still make you think you have stepped back in time.

It has no motorways, so accept that driving even 20 miles will take 40 minutes, and enjoy the scenery. Better still, dump the car and take a bicycle. There are no steep hills and there are miles of cycle-ways.

Norwich, by contrast, is a bustling city with shopping to please everyone, from designer names to market stalls and unique shops in intricate

little Lanes like Brighton. But all the time its spectacular cathedral and dramatic castle remind you of its affluent past.

Seaside fans will love Great Yarmouth, a kiss-me-quick town on the east coast with miles of sandy beaches. Its pleasure beach provides top-notch funfair rides with a dose of adrenaline and the wooden roller coaster, complete with brake-man in the middle, shows thrill rides haven't changed much in 50 years.

Cromer on the North Norfolk coast is far more traditional, and handy for the North Norfolk Steam Railway from nearby Sheringham – 10 miles of pure nostalgia.

After a week I was sorry to leave. It is a gentler pace of life with a welcome in every pub and restaurant.

We'll definitely be back.

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MOTORS NEWS



Suzuki release a timely crossover reminder

SUZUKI has created a new flagship SX4 model.

The SZ5 4x4 (from £14,235) is available with a 1.6-litre petrol or 2.0-litre diesel unit, comes with 4x4 as standard and looks like a smart bid to remind the market that Suzuki anticipated the new vogue for 'crossovers' – family hatchbacks with 'funky chunky' SUV styling.

In diesel format, it can average at least 50mpg and run in economical two-wheel or four-wheel drive. Cheaper front-wheel drive versions of the SX4 start at £11,750.



Lexus offers IS gifts as part of its celebrations

TOYOTA luxury arm Lexus is marking 20 years in the UK with special Celebration Edition offers on its IS junior executive model.

For a limited period, IS models come with a free upgrade to IS F-Sport standard for the price of an equivalent IS 250 or 220d diesel SE-I model.

This brings alloys, leather sports front seats, aluminium pedals, sports steering wheel, boot spoiler and other extras together worth £1,680. The all new IS also comes with three years' complimentary



Good news: the Qashqai has just got even better

NISSAN'S Qashqai – one of Britain's best-selling homegrown models – has received an upgrade.

Emissions and fuel-saving Stop/Start features as a £200 option on 1.6-litre petrol variants and brings road tax benefits, while the 1.5-litre dCi diesel equivalent – the pick of the range – is greener and more powerful (rising from 105bhp to 108bhp).

Nissan has also boosted the n-tec luxury grade by adding 18-inch alloys as standard while a new £250 option brings chrome highlights inside and out.



SPANISH STYLE: Although the Leon FR's interior feels cheap and the dashboard is generally drab, the car is great fun to drive with an automatic 'box or manual F1-style paddles

Seat have a hot hatch with coupé style rolled into one

YOU don't need to climb into the Leon FR to be seduced.

Our test car looked superb in what the Spanish 'Auto Emocion' brand calls 'Speed Blue' – a £550 option from Seat's so-called custom palette, which looks suspiciously like what the trade also used to call 'base colours' ie the non-metallics.

But here's the thing; Seats invariably look great in bold colours and people seem happy to pay extra to escape the monochromatic motoring hell that was two decades of silver and grey metallic.

Our car was also shod with 18-inch Orion black alloys (£510) making it sure to turn heads.

It's not even Seat's hottest Leon yet the FR looks fiery enough with its coupé lines and twin-chromed exhausts.

And you are still being led by the nose as you grip the fat leather wheel and note tasteful red seat stitching, but then things unravel – the rest of the cabin is dull; it is durable, but details can feel cheap and the dashboard is generally drab.

It's a shame, when the Leon cabin is practical and spacious and the car so entertaining,

ROAD TEST SEAT LEON FR

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

using the excellent VW Golf platform and well-known VW powertrains, while infused with the character of Seat itself.

The test car was particular fun with a 170PS (167bhp) 2.0-litre turbodiesel plus six-speed/twin clutch VW DSG gearbox.

It might sound like a contradiction, but this automatic 'box is the perfect partner for a sporting car in the real world; it changes itself when you are bogged down in traffic, but you can race through the gears yourself on a clear road by using F1-style paddles on the wheel.

It's even slightly faster than the manual, taking eight seconds to reach 62mph, and only marginally worse on fuel.

Providing you use gearbox and chassis sensibly, it will average around 50mpg and attracts just £125/year in road tax – not bad for such a sporting car mixing reassuring grip and handling with a decent ride.

However, to spec up with the bold colour and alloys plus that highly attractive gearbox you will add £2,310 to the £19,490 of our FR CR model – a lot of money when you consider that the Leon range starts at a modest £13,975.



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2008 08 Reg RENAULT Twingo 1.2 16V Dynamique £6,995



03 Reg VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 TDi Match £4,395

2007 57 Reg RANGE ROVER Sport 2.7 TDV6 HSE, 5 Doors, Automatic, Estate, Diesel, 2007 57 Reg, £28,995
2005 05 Reg MERCEDES-BENZ S320L CDI, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Diesel, 2005 05 Reg, £15,995
2009 09 Reg RENAULT Clio 2.0 16V Renaultsport 197 Cup, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, £12,995
2008 58 Reg FIAT 500 1.4 Sport, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2008 58 Reg, 8,000 miles, £9,495
2007 07 Reg CITROEN C4 Grand Picasso 1.8i 16V VTR Plus, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, £8,995
2006 06 Reg VAUXHALL Zafira 1.8i Life, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 2006 06 Reg, 47,000 miles, £6,995
2005 55 Reg CITROEN C8 2.0i 16v SX, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 2005 55 Reg, 36,000 miles, £6,995
2005 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 1.6, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2005, 20,193 miles, Metallic Silver, £6,495
2007 57 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2007 57 Reg, £6,495
2006 06 Reg RENAULT Modus 1.2 Oasis, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2006 06 Reg, £5,995
2006 06 Reg RENAULT Modus 1.2 Oasis, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2006 06 Reg, £5,995
2005 05 Reg RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 VVT Dynamique, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, £5,995
2006 06 Reg FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2006 06 Reg, £5,995
2008 08 Reg RENAULT Twingo 1.2 16V Dynamique, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2008 08 Reg, £5,795

2006 56 Reg FORD Focus 1.8 TDCI LX, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 2006 56 Reg, 54,000 miles, £5,495
2007 07 Reg FORD Ka 1.3i Style, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2007 07 Reg, 26,000 miles, £4,995
2006 06 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Campus Sport, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2006 06 Reg, £4,995
2004 04 Reg CITROEN C2 1.6i 16v VTR SensoDrive, 3 Doors, Automatic, Hatchback, Petrol, 2004 04 Reg, £4,495
03 Reg VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 TDi Match, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 03 Reg, 82,000 miles, £4,395
2004 04 Reg KIA Carens 2.0 CRDi LX, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Diesel, 2004 04 Reg, Metallic Blue, ABS, £4,295
2004 04 Reg MG ZR 1.4 105 +, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2004 04 Reg, 63,439 miles, £3,995
2004 54 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2004 54 Reg, £3,995
2001 Y Reg PEUGEOT 206 2.0 SE Cabriolet, 2 Doors, Manual, Cabriolet, Petrol, 2001 Y Reg, £3,995
2002 51 Reg RENAULT Scenic 1.9 dCi Dynamique, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Diesel, 2002 51 Reg, £3,495
2002 52 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression QSS, 5 Doors, Automatic, Hatchback, Petrol, £2,995
1999 RENAULT Clio 1.6 16v, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 1999, 64,000 miles, Metallic Red, £1,995

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Cdi Sport Saloon, White, Turbo Diesel, Automatic, 26000 miles
£23,500



2008 08 Mitsubishi L200

4wd LWB Warrior
Pick Up, Aluminium Silver, 5 Speed Gearbox, 24000 miles,
£13,495 + vat



2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi

SE estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 64000 miles
£10,995



2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi

SE Saloon, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 69000 miles
£9,995



2008 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Edge

140 TDCi Estate, Tango Red, Turbo Diesel, 67000 miles
£8,995

CAR LISTING

2007 57 Mercedes-Benz E280 Cdi Sport Saloon, White, Turbo Diesel, Automatic, 26000 miles . . . £23,500
2006 Mercedes-Benz ML320 CDi SE Estate, Black, Turbo Diesel, Automatic, 77000 miles . . . £19,995
2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi SE estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 64000 miles . . . £10,995
2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi SE Saloon, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 69000 miles . . . £9,995
08 08 'New Shape' Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Edge 6sp, 1 owner, 53k, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immo, E/W, CD in Met Grey . . . £8,995
2008 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Edge 140 TDCi Estate, Tango Red, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 67000 miles . . . £8,995
2001 Mercedes-Benz ML320 CDi Estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, Automatic . . . £8,495
2005 BMW 318ci 2.0 Sport 'M SPORT' Coupe, Aluminium Silver, Turbo, 5 speed manual, 77000 miles . . . £8,295
08 08 Peugeot 407 2.0 HDi SE 4dr, 6sp, 1 owner, 32k, FSH, A/C, ABS, Cruise, R/C/L, immob, E/W, CD, fogs, CD, Alloys, in metallic blue . . . £7,995
2007 Seat Leon 1.9 TDi Reference TDi 5dr hatchback, Black, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £7,995
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 Style TDCi, 5dr, Hatchback, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 47000 miles . . . £7,695
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 Style TDCi, 5dr, Hatchback, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 44000 miles . . . £7,195
2004 Honda CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC Executive Estate, Red, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 79000 miles . . . £6,995
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi estate, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 54000 miles . . . £6,695
2007 Peugeot 307 1.6 SW S HDi Estate, Red, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £6,995
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 Life CDTi 5dr hatchback, Black, Turbo Diesel, Manual, 48000 miles . . . £6,695
2007 Mazda 6 TS2 D Estate, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 102000 . . . £6,495
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 LX TDCi Estate, Red, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 73000 miles . . . £6,195
07 57 Mazda 6 TS 2.0 D 5Dr Estate, 6sp, 1 owner, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immo, E/W, E/M, CD, Alloys in Met Black . . . £5,995
2007 Ford Mondeo LX TDCi Estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 83000 miles . . . £5,995
2007 Ford Mondeo 2.0 LX TDCi 5dr Hatchback, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 71000 miles . . . £5,695
2007 Ford Mondeo LX TDCi 5dr Hatchback, Black, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £5,995
2004 Peugeot 407 SW Executive Estate, Maroon, Turbo, Automatic, 67000 miles . . . £5,695
06 56 Ford Mondeo 2.0 LX Auto, 5dr, 2 owners, 61k, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, Cruise, R/C/L, Immo, CD in Met Grey . . . £5,495
2007 57 Mazda 6 Hatchback 2.0td, 1 owner, 96,000 miles, A/C, E/W, PAS, C/L, Alloys, Met Silver . . . £5,495
2007 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Style TDCi 5dr Hatchback, Green, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 55000 . . . £4,995
2002 Volkswagen Golf Avantgarde Convertible, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 Speed manual, 53000 miles . . . £5,495
2004 Vauxhall Zafira 2.0 Elegance Dti 16v, 7 seater MPV, Burgundy, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 71000 miles . . . £5,295
2003 Jaguar X-Type V6 SE Saloon, Beige Buff, Petrol, Automatic, 88000 miles . . . £4,995
2002 Peugeot 2006 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S, Blue, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 59222 miles . . . £4,995
2002 Toyota Celica 1.8 VVT-i 3dr hatchback, Blue, Petrol, 6 speed manual, 82000 miles . . . £4,295
2007 Ford KA 1.3 Style Cloth 3dr Hatchback, White, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 37000 miles . . . £3,995
2005 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 SXi 16v Twinport 5dr hatchback, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 80000 miles . . . £3,995
2002 Ford Mondeo Zetec-SV6 24v 5dr hatchback, Green, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 78000 miles . . . £3,695
2004 Ford KA 1.3 Collection 3dr Hatchback, Black, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 35000 miles . . . £3,695
2004 Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 Life 16v 5dr Hatchback, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 96000 miles . . . £3,695
01 51 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 SE Estate Auto, 2 owners, 83k, SH, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immo, E/W, Heated seats, CD, Metallic Green . . . £3,295
2001 51 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 se Auto Estate, 2 owners, S/H, E/W, C/L, A/C, Met Green . . . £3,295
2002 Alfa Romeo 156 1.6 T-Spark Turismo Sportwagen Estate, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 63000 miles . . . £2,995

COMMERCIALS

2008 Mitsubishi L200 4wd LWB Warrior Pick Up, Aluminium Silver, 5 Speed Gearbox, 24000 miles . . . £13,495 + vat
2007 Ford Transit 2.4 D350 LWB DCC 100 Tipper Truck, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 53000 miles . . . £8,995 +vat
07 07 Mitsubishi L200 2.4 DI-D Warrior Double Cab, 1 owner, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, ASR, R/C/L, Immo, E/W, CD, Leather, Alloys in Met Black . . . £8,495 +vat
07 57 Volkswagen Transporter 1.9 TDi T28 SWB 103bhp, 1 owner, 97k, FSH, ABS, PAS, ASR, R/C/L, Immo, ply lined, side loading door, Cd in White . . . £7,495 +vat
2007 Ford Transit 280 SWB Lr Pv 85 Panel Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 87000 miles . . . £6,695 +vat
2007 Ford Transit 2.2 T280 SWB Lr Pv 85 Panel Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual . . . £6,295 +vat
07 07 Ford Transit 2.2 85 T280 S FWD, 1 owner, 86k, FSH, ABS, PAS, ESP, R/C/L, Immo, Ply Lined, CD in White . . . £5,995 +vat
2007 Volkswagen Transporter T28 SWB Pbv Pv 84 TDi, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 117000 miles . . . £5,995 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £5,995 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi Club Ac Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 90000 miles . . . £5,695 +vat
2007 Ford Transit Connect TDCi T230 LX LWB 90 Panel, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 97000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2008 Volkswagen Caddy 2.0 C20 SDi Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual, 87000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astravan 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 70000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 61000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 60000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Club CDTi Estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Peugeot Expert 1.9D 800 70 panel Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual, 60000 miles . . . £4,995 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 61000 miles . . . £5,295 +vat
2008 Volkswagen Caddy 2.0 C20 SDi Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual . . . £5,295 +vat
2006 Volkswagen Caddy 1.9 C20 TDi SWB Van, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 92000 miles . . . £4,695 +vat
2007 Peugeot Partner 1.9 LX 600 D Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual, 30000 miles . . . £4,495 +vat
2006 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi Envoy van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 29000 miles . . . £4,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Combo 1.3 CDTi 1700 Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 60000 miles . . . £4,495 +vat
2007 Peugeot Partner 1.9 Di 600 L SWB Cdv Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 75000 miles . . . £4,295 +vat



2007 Mazda 6 TS 2.0 D Estate

Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 65000 miles
£7,995



2002 Volkswagen Golf Avantgarde

Convertible, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 Speed manual, 53000 miles
£5,495



2007 Ford Focus 1.8 Style TDCi, 5dr

Hatchback, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 47000 miles
£7,695



2007 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi estate,

Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 54000 miles
£6,695



2006 Mercedes-Benz ML320 CDI

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AGILA																			
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2008	58	Agila Club CDTi	1.3	5	Steel silver	10,450	7,995			2009	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Black sapphire	4,600	9,495		
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995			2009	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495			2009	59	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Silver lightening	4,300	9,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	1,266	9,495			2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	10,495		
2009	59	Agila Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	3,900	8,995			2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	4,450	9,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	5,150	9,295			2009	59	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	6,350	9,395		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.2	5	Silver	2,355	10,750			2009	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395		
2010	59	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon grass	2,790	8,995			INSIGNIA & SIGNUM									
ANTARA										Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	07	Antara CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Metro blue	20,000	11,995			2009	09	Insignia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995		
2008	57	Antara CDTi E Auto	2.0	5	Slate blue	18,100	12,995			2009	59	Insignia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	20,995		
2009	59	Antara Exclusive CDTi	2.0D	5	Placid grey	2,020	17,495			2009	59	Insignia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	15,995		
ASTRA										MERIVA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2006	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	6,495			2006	06	Meriva Active E/T	1.6	5	Metro blue	33,225	5,995		
2007	07	Astra Energy CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	15,485	7,495			VECTRA									
2007	07	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Flame red	42,700	7,495			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	07	Astra Sri Sports hatch X pack	1.6 TBO	3	Flame red	29,810	8,995			2006	56	Vectra SRI CDTi	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	7,195		
2007	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	8,495			2007	57	Vectra Design Auto CDTi	1.9	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,995		
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	8,995			2007	07	Vectra Design Auto CDTi	1.9	5	Star silver	15,117	8,995		
2008	08	Astra Sri X Pack	1.6	5	Black sapphire	14,575	9,295			2008	58	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	8,495		
2008	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	8,495			ZAFIRA									
2009	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Panacotta	12,625	9,495			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2009	09	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,218	7,995			2008	58	Zafira Exclusive	1.6	5	Star silver	13,700	8,995		
2009	09	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,710	13,995			2009	59	Zafira Design CDTi	1.9	5	Panacotta	2,200	16,995		
2009	09	Astra Active	1.4	5	Black sapphire	9,650	9,495			2009	59	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Black sapphire	4,460	12,995		
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	9,995			2009	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	13,495		
2009	59	Astra Sxi eco flex	1.7D	5	Sovereign silver	3,400	12,495			DUE SOON									
2009	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	15,995			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2009	59	Astra Sxi CDTi	1.9D	5	Power red	8,000	12,995			2002	02*	Corsa SE	1.0	3	Flamer red	48,000	2,995		
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	4,960	9,995			2007	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	9,290	6,995		
2009	59	New Astra Exclusiv CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	6,450	13,995			2008	08*	Corsa Breeze Plus	1.3	3	Silver lightening	60,000	6,995		
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	9,995			2005	05*	Astra Breeze	1.6	5	Grey	44,500	5,495		
2009	59	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	6,250	9,995			2008	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	11,000	9,495		
2009	59	New Astra Sri	1.6	5	Power red	5,340	14,495			2010	59	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue		17,995		
CORSA										2005	05*	Meriva Breeze	1.4	5	Star silver	42,000	4,995		
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£			2001	51*	Vectra Sxi	1.8	4	Black	71,000	2,495		
2006	56	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Flame red	38,450	6,995			2006	56	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Metro blue	48,000	6,995		
2007	07	Corsa Club	1.2	5	Flame red	27,810	6,495			2008	08	Zafira Breeze +	1.9	5	Star silver	23,000	9,995		
2007	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,995			COMMERCIALS									
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Black sapphire	11,440	7,995			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	8,250			2008	58	Combo Crew van	1.7	6	White	3,650	7,995 No VAT		
2009	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	8,475			2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	Del	11,295 +VAT		
2009	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Metro blue	19,970	7,995			2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	17,900	10,695 +VAT		
										2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	15,925	10,995 +VAT		

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DIESEL

57 MERCEDES - BENZ GL CLASS 320 CDI 4 MATIC ,18,000 mls, Sat Nav, Electric pack, Silver, Full leather trim, privacy glass, fully loaded. Available for.....£34,995
05 BMW 530 DIESEL SPORT. Automatic M'Tec Design, Sat Nav, silver with full black leather trim, voice command, FSH. Available for.....£12,995
56 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI (170) SPORTSLINE, Metallic Grey with sports trim, Bose Audio Syatem, Multi-function steering wheel, Service history£11,995
04 MERCEDES C220 2.1 CDI SE Automatic, Silver with contrasting trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, Alloys, ABS, Air con. Stunning£5,995
03 JAGUAR X TYPE 2.0 Diesel SPORT, Full touch screen sat nav, Silver, Full leather trim, Alloys, Climate control. A stunning car£5,495
54 KIA SEDONA 7 Seater, Silver, Full leather trim, In car entertainment, 5 sp, Alloys, Roof rail, Full electric pack, Side loading door£4,995
06 FORD MONDEO TDCi TITANIUM, 5 door, Panther black with velour trim, Upgraded alloys, Sony 6 stack CD player, P/S, E/W, C/L, ABS, E/M, ESP manual. A clean car£4,695
54 SAAB 93 1.9 TD VECTOR , Metallic blue with two tone tan leather trim, 6 speed, multifunction steering wheel, CD player. A well maintained car£4,495
55 FORD CMAX TDCi GHIA, tonic blue with velour trim P/S, ABS, C/L, E/W, CD player, alloys, well maintained£3,995

SUMMERTIME

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PROPERTY NEWS

New-builds to be less of a taxing proposition?

A CHANGE to tax proposals could mean that new-build properties become more popular with buyers, according to one property expert.

The Government is considering a higher stamp duty tax for homes that are poorly insulated. Homes that lose large amounts of energy through draughty windows and poorly insulated lofts would be subject to the higher tax, say experts.

Reacting to the claims, the founder of newhomesforsale.co.uk Vernon Pethard said people will be encouraged to buy new homes to avoid falling foul of this tax.

"Threatening an increase in stamp duty on older, poorly insulated homes is likely to deter people from buying one because it's not always possible to bring them up to modern standards," he said.

UK best for investors in commercial property

COMMERCIAL property insurance customers have been told there is little reason to believe the UK commercial property market has become overvalued as a result of recent price rises.

Ed Stansfield, property economist, suggested the UK had seen "one of the bigger corrections" of all global commercial property markets during the downturn and, equally, one of the larger recoveries.

"The bottom line is that there is not a lot of evidence to suggest the UK market had become overvalued as a result of the upswing," he said.

Mr Stansfield's comments follow the Global Investment Perspective report by HSBC, which claimed the UK remains the most attractive commercial property market for investors.

Slight drop in number of tenants owing rent

A FIFTH of private-residential landlords have had tenants in rent arrears over the last three months, according to new research by the National Landlords Association.

During the second quarter of 2010, just over 21 per cent of landlords experienced rental arrears. This represents an improvement on the previous quarter when the figure was at 24.5 per cent.

Furthermore, the average amount of outstanding rent arrears has dropped significantly from £978 in the first three months to £799 in the second.



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MIXED MESSAGES: Despite this week's good news that house prices are creeping up some experts have issued warnings the housing market remains highly volatile at present

Market rise in house prices met with some scepticism

BY NICK AMES

THE HOUSING market has received a boost following the news from the Halifax that prices rose unexpectedly last month.

The news comes as a welcome relief as overall prices have been falling in the last few weeks, but Halifax analysts saw a 0.6 per cent upswing.

This news has been greeted with jubilation by investors and homeowners.

But there are still fears the market is volatile and has been completely settled.

The average price increased to £167,425 from £166,351 and followed falls in the previous three months, including a 0.6 per cent fall in June. The rise beat economists' forecasts of a 0.3 per cent fall in July.

"The mixed pattern of monthly rises and falls over the first seven months of the year is

consistent with a slowing market," said Martin Ellis, housing economist at Halifax.

"It is also in line with our view that house prices will be broadly unchanged over 2010 as a whole."

Prices in July were 4.8 per cent higher compared with a year earlier, the same as the year-on-year increase in June, but lower than the peak of 8.7 per cent in April.

Since the beginning of this year the average UK house price has fallen by £2,059, or 1.2 per cent. Prices are 16 per cent below their August 2007 peak.

Mr Ellis said that while low interest rates and a recovering economy continued to support the housing market, an increase in the number of properties being put on the market

– boosted by the coalition Government's abolition of Home Information Packs (HIPs) – had relieved some of the supply constraint which drove prices up in 2009.

However other experts have issued warnings.

Paul Diggle, property economist at Capital Economics said that monthly house prices were volatile and would continue to be so in the short term.

He said July's increase did not change the likelihood that prices are set for a period of "considerable weakness" in the remainder of this year and into 2011.

"The weakness in buyer activity, signs that credit conditions may be tightening again, the possibility of renewed weakness in the labour market in the next year, and the hit on household incomes that the fiscal squeeze will bring over the next few years, will all weigh on house prices," Mr Diggle said.

Buy in right catchment area and your child will reap reward

PARENTS could be making a good investment by paying more for a house within the catchment area of a good school.

The additional spending will be worth it if the location of a higher priced property improves the

chances of children being admitted to a particular school, according to Mouseprice director Selwyn Lim.

He advised parents that it is also worth considering the life-time value of such an investment.

Mr Lim explained: "That premi-

um doesn't actually sound like that much if that is to be spread across the entire schooling age of a child or 2.4 children [per family] on average. It doesn't translate to that much money per child per year if you divide it."

Nationwide reported that parents are prepared to pay an extra 4.6 per cent – £8,670 – for a property in a good school catchment area.

A ten per cent pass rate in Sats also adds a 3.3 per cent premium to a property in a particular area.

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Additional Learning Support Tutor/Assessor Ref: P0557

Salary: £24,792 - £28,311 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway

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Ref: P0496

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Ref: SE896

Salary: £8.96 - £11.26 (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway/Maidstone

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CLOSING DATE: Wednesday 25 August 2010

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference number 695.

Closing date: 20 August 2010 at 5.00pm
Interview date: 9 September 2010 in Ashford.

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Advanced Skills Lecturer in Civil Engineering Ref: P0333

Salary: £40,512 per annum
Maidstone

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in leading the development of Civil Engineering programmes across the Faculty of Design and Construction. The successful candidate will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold a Degree or higher qualification in Civil Engineering or a related specialism. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 20 August 2010
INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD THE WEEK COMMENCING 30 AUGUST 2010

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Salary: £24,792 - £29,160 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year. One year fixed term contract
Medway

We are looking to recruit a self starter who is highly motivated and is able to give clear focus to our youth work, working as a member of our dedicated Student Support Team at the College's new state of the art campus in Medway. You will be responsible for developing our youth work and for engaging our ever increasing number of 16-19 year olds in Citizenship, volunteering, sport and other activities to supplement their learning and development as well as forging partnerships with local organisations to take forward joint projects. This is an exciting role where you will be able to demonstrate that you are a good communicator and organiser and want to make a real difference to many young people's lives.

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CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2010
INTERVIEWS TO BE HELD MID SEPTEMBER

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

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We are looking for someone with good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and casework skills and proven experience of working with young people presenting with complex needs. Possession of, or working towards, a relevant professional qualification is essential.

For an application form please visit our website www.kca.org.uk, email recruitment@kca.org.uk or telephone 01795 590795 Option 3. Please quote ref 698.

Closing date: 26 August 2010
Interview date: 7 September 2010

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Jason Pyne, Development Director
KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.
Or by email: jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk

About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

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The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

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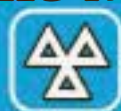
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Outside fight night switch

BOXING

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

A BOXING promoter is considering holding a fight night showcasing the county's best talent at the revamped Medway Park after plans to host an outdoor show this summer had to be shelved.

Mark Roe was hoping to attract 1,500 spectators to an open-air event held at Lordswood Football Club's Martyn Grove. Undefeated Chatham heavyweight Tom Dallas, who is managed by Roe, was due to be the main attraction on the bill, which was also set to include a host of the county's other top names.

The event in July had to be postponed after organisers discovered they had not applied for the relevant licence from Medway Council. They initially hoped the show could be

rearranged for later this month, but with no guarantees over if and when the licence would be granted, it made rescheduling before the end of the summer impractical.

Roe, who hopes to run the event next summer, said: "To make the date up would have been awkward. We needed dates to print tickets and posters. It will definitely be getting under way and if we have to wait another season that's unfortunately what we've got to do."

Despite the disappointment, an alternative night at Medway Park is now a possibility, although Roe would have to apply for the relevant licence.

As part of the £11 million redevelopment of the Black Lion Leisure Centre, a 12-court sports hall was built, which is capable of hosting a variety of events, including boxing.

Roe is hoping to speak to the council to clarify the details, but is optimistic a similar bill to the Lordswood night, which was due to include Ramsgate brothers Scott and Vinny Woolford and Gavin Tait from Sheerness, could be arranged before the end of the year.

He said: "I've got to speak to the people in



Picture: ADY KERRY

PROSPECT: Rising heavyweight star Tom Dallas (right) was due to top the bill at outdoor boxing show at Martyn Grove

charge, but if we can make some arrangements we shouldn't have a problem, it would be a fantastic venue. The line-up wouldn't change, one of the ideas of the Lordswood show was to bring boxing back to Kent using Kent boys on the bill.

"I want to parade Tom [Dallas] down there. We have a future British heavyweight champion on our hands and we need to get that out there."

Dallas is next due in the ring at a show in Newham, east London, in October.

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Tenterden 1st XI v High Halstow 1st XI

HIGH Halstow's relegation to Division Three was all but confirmed as they lost to league leaders Tenterden by nine wickets.

Considering the two sides' contrasting fortunes this season, it always looked a tall order for the visitors. They made a good start, with openers David Sibley and James Leadbetter putting on 65 for the first wicket, but the innings unravelled rapidly after they were dismissed.

Joe Bowles took an early wicket to briefly give High Halstow hope, but the hosts recovered to knock off the runs they needed inside 30 overs.

High Halstow 1st XI

	Runs
David Sibley	ct Brann b Knight.....38
James Leadbetter	st Leale-Green b Chanda.....22
Ashley Trigg	ct Curteis b Baker.....11
Steve Laphorn	ct Crawford b Knight.....0
Simon Morley	ct Rand b Knight.....0
Luke Donnelly	b Chanda.....7
Jamie Trigg	ct Crawford b Baker.....6
Rupert Staple	ct Brann b Baker.....5
Jamie Taylor	b Knight.....3
Joe Bowles	ct Brann b Baker.....7
David Taylor	not out.....0
Extras	(17b 2w 2nb).....21
Total	(all out, 45 overs).....120

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Scott Freeman	3	1	18	0
James Rand	5	0	18	0
Timir Chanda	12	2	29	2
Ryan Knight	12	5	29	4
Mark Baker	13	7	9	4

Tenterden 1st XI

	Runs
Tim Curteis	ct Trigg b Bowles.....7
Andrew Crawford	not out.....68
Simon Berry	not out.....27
Paul Brann	did not bat.....
Timir Chanda	did not bat.....
Ben Daking	did not bat.....
Ben Leale-Green	did not bat.....
Scott Freeman	did not bat.....
Ryan Knight	did not bat.....
James Rand	did not bat.....
Mark Baker	did not bat.....
Extras	(10b 6lb 3w).....19
Total	(1 wickets, 29.4 overs).....121

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Simon Baldwin	7	2	24	3
Mick Washbrook	7	1	31	2
Vivek Trivedi	5.3	1	17	1
Dave Light	5	0	18	2

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION 1B CENTRAL

Frindsbury 3rd XI v Gore Court 3rd XI

FRINDSBURY 3rds boosted their hopes of promotion as they beat struggling Gore Court by eight wickets.

The rain-affected match was reduced to 28 overs per side and when play got under way Frindsbury wasted little time in taking control. Court were reduced to 41 for 6 and although the visitors rallied through Sam Miller, they could only muster 90 for 9.

Helped by 20 runs in wides, Frindsbury reached their target with ease. Opener Sunny Singh led the way with 29 and they reached their target with more than seven overs to spare.

Gore Court 3rd XI

	Runs
Michael Neame	ct Tomlin b Gausby.....1
Jack Johnson	b Singh.....1
Henry Adie	run out Singh.....18
Timothy Nutting	ct Bistoquet b Singh.....9
Sam Miller	b Bassi.....23
Matt Kingsnorth	ct R Burt b Tomlin.....1
Daniel Clazzer	b Tomlin.....0
James Newell	ct T Burt b Bassi.....8
Andrew Nutting	not out.....4
Ben Hanson	ct Bassi b Burt.....13
Tom Passey	not out.....
Extras	(3b 8w 1nb).....12
Total	(9 wickets, 28 overs).....90

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Curjit (Sunny) Singh	7	1	14	2
Aiden Gausby	4	0	22	1
Balraj Bassi	7	2	21	2
Dave Tomlin	7	2	14	2
Raymond Burt	3	1	16	1

Frindsbury 3rd XI

	Runs
Thomas Burt	ct Hanson b Newell.....19
Curjit (Sunny) Singh	ct Nutting b Neame.....29
Champak Mistry	not out.....12
Raymond Burt	not out.....10
Paul Bistoquet	did not bat.....
Balraj Bassi	did not bat.....
Adam Palmer	did not bat.....
Bobby Bistoquet	did not bat.....
Aiden Gausby	did not bat.....
Dave Tomlin	did not bat.....
Rob Peters	did not bat.....
Extras	(1b 2lb 20w).....23
Total	(2 wickets, 22.2 overs).....93

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
James Newell	7	4	7	1
Henry Adie	5	0	21	0
Ben Hanson	2	0	23	0
Michael Neame	4	0	25	1
Timothy Nutting	4	0	10	0
Tom Passey	0.2	0	4	0

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION 2B EAST & CENTRAL

Old Williamsons 2nd XI v Bearsted 2nd XI

A CAPTAINS innings from Marc King saw Old Williamsons 2nds scrape past their Bearsted counterparts by one wicket in a low scoring game.

Bowler-friendly conditions made life tough for both sides and only two Bearsted batsmen reached double figures as they limped to 66 all out. Samuel Pepper was the pick of the hosts' bowling unit, taking 3 for 12.

Old Williamsons crumpled to 15 for 7 in reply, before King defied the conditions to hit 40. The skipper struck the winning runs with a four over mid-wicket to seal an extraordinary victory.

Bearsted 2nd XI

	Runs
Tim Lush	ct Pentecost b King.....4
Alex Dimmick	ct Pentecost b King.....14
Dan Cowell	b Rayner.....0
Neil Jefferies	ct Pentecost b Rayner.....3
Rod Maloney	ct Routledge b King.....2
Stephen Horrocks	b Masters.....2
James Midgely	lbw b Pepper.....15
James Macfarlane	b Pepper.....0
Daniel Jefferies	ct Holbrook b Pepper.....6
Chris Norris	not out.....2
Ben Lush	b Masters.....0

Extras

(4b 4lb 10w)	18
--------------	----

Total (all out, 31 overs).....66

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Marc King	10	3	21	3
Craig Rayner	10	3	17	2
Joe Masters	6	2	8	2
Samuel Pepper	5	1	12	3

Old Williamsons 2nd XI

	Runs
Ashley Pentecost	ct Maloney b Macfarlane.....1
David Routledge	ct Jefferies b Horrocks.....0
Samuel Pepper	ct Maloney b Horrocks.....0
Sean Holbrook	ct Cowell b Macfarlane.....5
James Pentecost	ct Midgely b Horrocks.....0
Andrew Routledge	ct Cowell b Horrocks.....2
Neil Fanthome-Hodgson	ct Norris b Horrocks.....1
Marc King	not out.....40
Jake Butcher	ct Maloney b Horrocks.....2
Craig Rayner	ct Macfarlane b Horrocks.....7
Joe Masters	not out.....0

Extras

(2b 9w)	11
---------	----

Total (9 wickets, 21 overs).....69

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Stephen Horrocks	10	3	16	7
James Macfarlane	7	1	23	2
Tim Lush	3	0	23	0
Daniel Jefferies	1	0	5	0

MEDWAY AREA SUNDAY LEAGUE

G.E.C. 1st XI v Blue Bell Hill Sunday 1st XI

A SUPERB knock from Adam Ling proved the difference as GEC beat Blue Bell Hill by seven wickets on Sunday.

Several Blue Bell Hill batsmen made promising starts to their innings but significantly none could pass 20. The extras column finished top scorer as the visitors were bowled out for 119, with Ashley Price taking 4 for 22.

GEC lost Rod Moodley before a they had a run on the board, but Ling stepped forward to almost single-handedly win the game. Hitting 15 boundaries in his knock of 86, he led the home side to a comfortable win.

Blue Bell Hill Sunday 1st XI

	Runs
Jack Attridge	ct Thornton b Elliott.....9
David Smith	b Butcher.....18
David Hayward	ct Smith b Price.....12
Ian Hayward	ct Moody b Price.....10
Leigh Short	ct Moody b Price.....5
Bradley Howe	ct Minshull b Price.....12
James Phillips	ct Elliott b Butcher.....7
Clifton Phillips	lbw b Francis.....12
Neil Redmond	not out.....1
Matthew Hayward	ct Thornton b Ricketts.....2

Extras

(3lb 17w 2nb)	22
---------------	----

Total (all out, 37.5 overs).....119

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Robbie Elliott	8	0	33	1
Lee Minshull	6	2	15	0
Ashley Price	9	2	22	4
Jake Butcher	9	1	28	2
Alan Ricketts	3.5	1	13	2
Tony Francis	2	0	5	1

G.E.C. 1st XI

	Runs
Rod Moodley	ct Hayward b Hayward.....0
Tony Francis	b Hayward.....7
Adam Ling	not out.....86
Sean Holbrook	b Short.....12
Lee Minshull	not out.....7
Robbie Elliott	did not bat.....
Josh Thornton	did not bat.....
Andy Smith	did not bat.....
Jake Butcher	did not bat.....
Alan Ricketts	did not bat.....
Ashley Price	did not bat.....

Extras

(1b 3lb 4w)	8
-------------	---

Total (3 wickets, 28 overs).....120

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Ian Hayward	7	1	30	2
Matthew Hayward	5	1	17	0
Clifton Phillips	4	1	18	0
Leigh Short	5	1	15	1
Neil Redmond	5	0	22	0
Jack Attridge	2	0	14	0

Gills show fighting spirit in first away trip under Hess

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Hereford United 0

Gillingham 0

SATURDAY'S goalless draw at Hereford may not live too long in the memory for many who were there, but the display reinforced manager Andy Hessenthaler's belief his squad are in for a good season.

The 15-month wait for an away win goes on, but the battling qualities shown by a squad missing 11 injured players was commendable. It was the sort of performance lacking at times on the road last season, although it is difficult to compare a physical Hereford side with the standard of opposition which the Gills came up against in League One.

The game was similar to the opening day draw with Cheltenham, as Gillingham left the pitch knowing they had forged the better chances. Hessenthaler felt his side had again not got what they deserved, but pointed to the enthusiastic reaction from the travelling fans on the final whistle as evidence of progress.

He said: "I think they realised how much effort we put in. We said in the changing room



BATTLE: Gillingham's Josh Gowling (left) goes up for a challenge in Saturday's draw at Hereford

that we've got to believe and I think they can see if we all stick together we can achieve what we're all after. All fans demand real effort and they got that.

"There is a little bit of frustration because out of the two performances it could easily have been six points. There are more positives than negatives, I go home on the bus pleased, a little frustrated, but excited because there are players to come back in."

The injury list is expected to get shorter this week, with the return of Curtis Weston, Cody McDonald and possibly Barry Fuller and Dennis Oli. None were available for the week-

Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: S Payne (Palmer 82)

end, along with Danny Jackman, who added to the selection headache with the news he may need minor knee surgery.

Matt Lawrence came in for his debut at right-back and despite not playing at all in pre-season, the veteran had a calming influence on a back four which had been torn apart by Norwich four days earlier in the Carling Cup.

Gillingham should have gone in ahead at the break after a succession of chances. Chris Palmer and Danny Spiller forced good saves from Adam Bartlett inside the first six minutes, while Adebayo Akinfenwa headed over.

A Palmer free-kick hit the post, while at the other end Alan Julian made two good blocks to keep the scores level.

The hosts were the better side after the interval as the Gills ran out of steam. They dug in well to limit Hereford's opportunities, then fought back in the closing stages, with Danny Spiller's stoppage-time effort tipped over the bar.

This weekend the Gills host Lincoln City.

FOOTBALL



TIRED: Matt Lawrence made Gills debut on Saturday

Lawro catching up with rest of squad

AFTER a disrupted pre-season, new signing Matt Lawrence admits it will take several weeks before Gillingham fans see the best of him.

The 36-year-old was released by Crystal Palace in June and spent the rest of the summer training on his own while looking for a new club. Although there were several offers, none were attractive enough to prompt a move until the versatile defender signed for the Gills last week.

Despite playing no pre-season games, Lawrence lasted the full 90 minutes on debut at Hereford United on Saturday, but felt it would take time to reach 100 per cent.

He said: "It's going to take three or four weeks I'm sure, but I'll endeavour to do my best in every game and that's all anyone can ask."

"It's a shame that I joined so late. I was speaking to a few other clubs obviously and ideally I would have signed mid to late-July, it doesn't hurt too much to miss a couple of weeks but it's hurt me to miss the whole of pre-season."

Pre-season gives Chats confidence

FOOTBALL

CONFIDENCE is high as Chatham Town head into the new Ryman South season on the back of an encouraging pre-season.

It has been a busy summer at Maidstone Road, with Paul Foley replacing Alex O'Brien as manager and a high turnover of players.

The club, through no fault of their own, have also spent much of the close season uncertain about which division they will be playing in. They finally get their league campaign under way in Ryman South on Saturday with a home game against Corinthian Casuals.

Foley, back from holiday, was impressed with his side's performance in their penultimate friendly game, a 2-0 win against Maidstone

United, which came four days after beating a weakened Ebbsfleet 4-1.

He said: "We are all encouraged by the strength in depth we have this season as we are always striving to improve on the previous season and we think we have done that."

"The reports received from the Ebbsfleet game were very good and it is even more pleasing to hear supporters say they haven't seen a Chatham side play football like they witnessed in the last two games for years. That tells me we are on the right track."

The squad is now finalised with Matt Solly, Uche Ibemere and Ryan Laker agreeing contracts with the club. Skipper Danny Penny's knee injury is the one sour note from the summer, but Joe Fuller and George Fenwick have been brought in as cover up front.

Picture: IGOR KUPCO



OPTIMISTIC: Chatham (in red) begin their league season on Saturday

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